

#### DEADLY CHOPPER **CRASH IN UK UNDER** INVESTIGATION



### **ASIAN FACTORIES** SEE SENSE, SAVINGS IN GOING GREEN

Page 32

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Thursday, January 9, 2014

#### **FLAGRANT FOUL**

#### **ERIC TALMADGE Associated Press PYONGYANG, North Korea**

(AP) — Dennis Rodman sang "Happy Birthday" to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un before leading a squad of former NBA stars in a friendly game Wednesday as part of his "basketball diplomacy" that has been criticized in the United States as naive and laughable.



**Dennis Rodman sings Happy** Birthday to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Pyongyang, North Korea on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014.

(AP Photo/Kim Kwang Hyon)

Rodman dedicated the game to his "best friend" Kim, who along with his wife and other senior officials and their wives watched from a special seating area. The capacity crowd of about 14,000 at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium clapped loudly as Rodman sang a verse from the birthday song.

Rodman said he was honored to be able to play the game in the North Korean capital and called the event "historic."

Continued on page 10



Traffic moves across the George Washington Bridge, in Fort Lee, N.J., in September, 2013. A series of newly obtained emails shows that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's office was closely involved with lane closings at the bridge in September, and that officials closed the lanes in what appeared to be retribution against Mark Sokolich, mayor of Fort Lee, N.J., whose town was gridlocked as

(AP Photo/Mel Evans)

### Top Christie Staff Sought Lane Closings As Revenge

#### **KATE ZERNIKE**

#### © 2014 New York Times

Newly obtained emails and text messages show that Gov. Chris Christie's office was closely involved with lane closings on the New Jersey side of the George obtained by The New York officials at Port Author-Washington Bridge in September, and that officials closed the lanes as retribution against the Democratic mayor whose town was gridlocked as a result.

growing scandal around the bridge threatens Christie at the moment he assumes an even larger

position on the national stage, as chairman of the Republican Governor's Association and a leading candidate for his party's presidential nomination in 2016. In the documents, Times and other news outlets Wednesday, Bridget Anne Kelly, a deputy chief of staff in Christie's office, gave a signal to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to close the lanes about two weeks before the closings occurred. "Time for some traffic

problems in Fort Lee," she emailed David Wildstein. Christie's close friend from high school, and one of his appointees at the Port Authority, which controls the bridge. Christie and some ity have said the closings were done as part of a traffic study, but they caused havoc for days, backing up traffic for hours.

After the emails were released, Christie canceled his one public event for the day, which had been billed as an announcement of progress in the recovery from Hurricane Sandy. His office had no immediate comment.

Christie's handpicked chairman of the Port Authority, David Samson, was also involved in the closings, according to the emails, which describe his efforts to "retaliate" against New York officials who had not been told of the changes and sought to ease the gridlock.

Continued on page 4

### **AROUND THE WORLD**

#### Goodyear sues over 'boss-napping'

**PARIS (AP)** — Goodyear's French division says it has filed a lawsuit over the "boss-napping" of two of its executives and workers' occupation of a plant in northern France. Goodyear Dunlop Tires France — a subsidiary of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. of Akron, Ohio — said in a statement the lawsuit was filed Wednesday with the prosecutor in Amiens, France, because it can't accept "actions that endanger people and goods." Two Goodyear managers held captive by workers in Amiens were freed Tuesday after police intervened, ending a two-day standoff over the factory's bleak future.

#### Argentina to import Brazil produce

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)** — Argentina's government will import tomatoes from Brazil to guarantee supply and keep a regulated price. Cabinet Chief Jorge Capitanich said Wednesday that the price of tomatoes has been rising in Argentina due to weather conditions. He said the measure will guarantee a fair price to consumers to avoid a shortage. Consumer prices are among the biggest worries for Argentines. The government on Monday launched its latest price control program to curb high inflation. The government says inflation is running around 10 percent a year.

#### Tunisians protest over higher taxes

**TUNIS, Tunisia (AP)** — Tunisians protesting a new tax on vehicles have clashed with police, who responded with tear gas. The protests centered on the southern towns of Kasserine and Thala in the country's impoverished interior were in response to a new series of taxes that came into effect in 2014. Tunisia's Finance Minister Elyas Fakhfakh appeared on television Wednesday to call for calm and denounce rumors that had inflated the size of the taxes. Protesters attacked police stations and burned vehicles but were repelled from storming government offices.

#### France hits Google with \$204K fine

**PARIS (AP)** — The French digital privacy watchdog is fining Google 150,000 euros (\$204,000) for breaking rules on ensuring data privacy. The CNIL agency said on Wednesday that Google's new privacy policy which applies to all of its services from e-mail to calendars — isn't specific enough about how and why it collects data from users and doesn't define how long it keeps such data, among other problems. EU authorities also have said the new privacy policy doesn't follow their rules. Google has contended that its new policy is simpler and complies with European law.

#### Germany to probe migration abuse

**BERLIN (AP)** — The German government is creating a high-level panel to look into claims that migrants from elsewhere in the European Union are abusing the country's welfare system. Last year more than a dozen German cities asked the federal government for help in dealing with a large influx of migrants from Romania and Bulgaria. This month restrictions eased on the movement of people from those two countries to the rest of the 28-nation EU. Government spokesman Steffen Seibert said Wednesday the panel would examine possible legislation to combat any welfare abuse.

#### Canada:

### Train carrying oil derails, catches fire

PLASTER ROCK, New Brunswick (AP) — Officials in Canada said a derailed freight train carrying crude oil and propane continued to burn Wednesday, and about 150 residents remained evacuated from their homes. There were no deaths or injuries.

Of the 17 cars that derailed late Tuesday in New Brunswick province, five contain crude oil and four contain propane, said Claude Mongeau, the chief executive of CN Rail. Some of the propane cars are venting and some of the crude cars are burning, he said. "It is contained, but it is evolving," Mongeau said. The train's brakes came on unexpectedly, Canada's Transportation Safety Board said based on preliminary information from the rail company and police.

"Preliminary reports were

that the train was proceeding, and while proceeding experienced what we call is an undesired brake application," said Daniel Holbrook, a manager with the safety board. Holbrook also said the crew found a broken axle.

The derailment in a sparsepopulated region, roughly 20 miles (32 kilometers) from the U.S. border and northern Maine, again raised concerns about the increasing use of rail to transport oil throughout North America. In July, 47 people were killed in Lac-Megantic, Quebec, when a train carrying crude oil derailed.

Andrew Simpson, 30, was playing cards with his uncle Tuesday evening when the train went off the tracks less than a mile (1.6 kilometer) away. "The table just kind of rumbled, and out the window went a real bright orange," he said. "We looked out and the whole train yard was on fire. We panicked and called (emergency services)."

New Brunswick Premier David Alward said there was minimal impact on the environment.

Sharon DeWitt, emergency measures coordinator for the nearby community of Plaster Rock, said no one was killed or injured. She said people were evacuated within a two-kilometer (1.24-mile) radius of the fire.

Officials said the regularly scheduled freight train ran into trouble around 7 p.m. Tuesday about 150 kilometers (93 miles) northwest of Fredericton. Mongeau said the crude oil was from western Canada and was destined for an Irving Oil refinery in Saint John, New Brunswick.



This aerial photo shows derailed train cars burning in Plaster Rock, New Brunswick on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014. A Canadian National Railway freight train carrying crude oil and propane derailed Tuesday night in a sparsely populated region of northwestern New Brunswick. More than 100 residents remained evacuated from their homes. There were no deaths or injuries. (AP Photo/The Canadian Press, Tom Bateman)

### Canada reports fatal case of bird flu

**ROB GILLIES Associated Press** 

TORONTO (AP) — Canadian health officials said began to feel ill on a flight Wednesday a fatal case to Canada from Beijina of H5N1 bird flu has been reported in Canada, the first such case in North America. The victim was travelling from China when symptoms first appeared. Health Minister Rona Ambrose said the case, in Alberta, was an isolated one

and that the risk to the general public is very low. Officials said the person on Dec. 27. They said it was the first case of H5N1 circulating in Beijing and said China looking is looking into it. "This is the first evidence of this particular virus circulating in Beijing. Chinese authorities are going to be very interested. We've contacted them already," Dr. Gregory Taylor said. Taylor said the victim only visited Beijing in China. The victim did not travel to a farm or visit markets, he said. The World Health Organization says that as of mid-December, there had been 648 laboratoryconfirmed human cases of H5N1 flu, reported mostly in Asia. Of that total, 384 infections have been fatal.



#### Witness report found on Stalin's Katyn massacre

M. SCISLOWSKA **Associated Press** WASHINGTON/ **WARSAW(AP)** — A researcher says she has uncovered vital testimony from a U.S. officer who in 1943 was forced by the Nazis to watch as they exhumed thousands of Polish officers killed on Soviet leader Josef Stalin's orders. At a news conference Wednesday in Warsaw, U.S. researcher Krystyna Piorkowska said she found the Paris-dated May 10, 1945, testimony of former American prisoner of war Lt. Col. John H. Van Vliet Jr. in the U.S. National Archives near Washington last November. It was filed among other unrelated World War II documents from the U.S. Embassy in Paris.

The sworn deposition provides evidence of Soviet responsibility for the 1940 massacre of some 22,000 Polish officers in the Katyn forest and other places in what was then the Soviet Union. The Soviet Red Army had taken the Polish officers prisoner after invading eastern Poland in September 1939.

Another report that Van Vliet made a few days later in Washington is considered missing. This has fueled speculation that the U.S. government helped cover up Soviet responsibility for the massacre out of fear that saying the truth would anger Stalin, whom the Allies were counting on to help them defeat Germany and Japan in World War II.

decades, Moscow had blamed the Nazis for the massacre, but then in 1990 admitted that Stalin had ordered it. The massacre further embittered Poland's relations with Moscow, which has refused to consider the massacre a genocide and has been reluctant to prosecute any living henchmen.

Van Vliet was a POW in Germany when he was taken to Katyn to see the evidence.

### White House defends itself, Biden over Gates book

**JOSH LEDERMAN Associated Press** 

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rushing to curb political fallout, the White House pushed back Wednesday against harsh criticism in a new book by former Defense Secretary Robert Gates that questions President Barack Obama's leadership and rips into Vice President Joe Biden.

The tell-all memoir from Gates has created a splash in Washington, casting a negative light on Obama's national security operations by detailing a high level of discord among the small team that made key decisions about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. For two key participants — Biden and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton — the accusations could color how the two potential 2016 presidential candidates are viewed by voters.

Initially caught off guard by the book's accusations, Obama's aides walked a fine line between publicly rebuking his former defense chief and allowing Gates' claims to go unchallenged. Still, the White House hurried to Biden's defense and said the president disagrees with Gates' characterization.

White House spokesman Jay Carney disputed several of Gates' points individually but said Obama appreciated Gates' service. He said those who have the privilege to serve at high levels make their own decisions about whether and when to di-



A bearded White House press secretary Jay Carney listens to a question during his daily news briefing at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014, where he discussed topics including former Defense Secretary Robert Gates' book and press access at the White House.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

vulge details of private conversations after they leave government.

"I'll leave it to other folks to decide," Carney said.

In the book, "Duty: Memoirs of a Secretary of War," Gates accuses Obama of having little resolve for his own strategy in Afghanistan and of presiding over a national security team in which military leaders were treated with suspicion and career staffers brushed aside as decisions were centralized among a small cadre of White House advisers.

But Gates reserves his most sweeping indictment for Biden. Despite praising Biden's integrity and personal sense of loyalty, Gates asserts that the vice president "has been wrong

on nearly every major foreign policy and national security issue over the past four decades."

The White House moved quickly to dispel that notion, issuing a statement calling Biden a "leading statesmen of his time" and echoing the sentiment before television cameras.

"I don't think anybody who has covered us or knows the president and the vice president, knows how this White House functions, has any doubt about the president's faith in Vice President Biden as an adviser and counselor," Carney said.

In a rare departure from its usual policy, the White House allowed news photographers in Wednesday to Obama's weekly lun- familiar exercise.

cheon with Biden in the private dining room just off the Oval Office, where Biden spoke animatedly to Obama as they two sat across each other at a wood table.

Carney said the White House merely was giving photographers more access, which they have demanded.

Biden's central role in decision-making also was on display in Obama's public schedule for Wednesday, which showed the vice president meeting with the president five times durina the day.

For the White House, defending Biden against questions about his value to the administration has become something of a

### Arctic air eases its grip on much of the US

**RAY HENRY Associated Press** 

ATLANTA (AP) — An arccalming and the weather haven soon enough. warming slightly a day af- In a phenomenon that ter temperature records some more than a century not all that unusual, all 50 old — shattered.

Authorities reported at least 21 cold-related deaths across the country since Sunday. At least five peo-

ple died after collapsing a dormant volcano. while shoveling snow, while several victims were identic blast eased its grip on tifled as homeless people heit (-14 Celsius) hit early much of the eastern U.S. who either refused shelter Tuesday, the forecast on Wednesday, with winds or didn't make it to a warm Wednesday was sunny and flights Tuesday in the U.S.,

> forecasters said is actually states saw freezing temperatures at some point Tuesday. That included Hawaii, where it was 18 degrees (-8 Celsius) atop Mauna Kea,

In Atlanta, where a record low of 6 degrees Fahrena more normal 42 degrees (5 Celsius).

The big chill started in the Midwest over the weekend, caused by a kink in the "polar vortex," the strong winds that circulate around the North Pole. The icy air covered about half the country by Tuesday.

With the bitter cold slowing baggage handling and aircraft refueling, airlines canceled more than 2,000 bringing the four-day total to more than 11,000.

Natural gas demand in the U.S. set a record Tuesday, eclipsing the mark set a day earlier, according to Jack Weixel, director of energy analysis at Bentek



### **Christie Staff Sought Lane Closings**

#### Continued from Front

While the emails do not establish that the governor called for the lane closings, they do show his staff was intimately involved, contradicting Christie's repeated avowals that no one in his office or campaign knew.

leading candidate for his party's presidential nomination by winning across many demographic groups. His campaign boasted that he had been endorsed by more than 50 local Democratic officials. But the documents released Wednesday underscore what Republicans as well as Democrats in

day of school and including the anniversary of Sept. 11. Sokolich, who had not been informed of the closings, texted Bill Baroni, the governor's top appointee at the Port Authority, asking for "help" because the lane closings were making children on buses late to school.

"Is it wrong that I am smil-



A view of the George Washington Bridge from Fort Lee, N.J., in December, 2013. A series of newly obtained emails shows that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's office was closely involved with lane closings at the bridge in September, and that officials closed the lanes in what appeared to be retribution against Mark Sokolich, mayor of Fort Lee, N.J., whose town was gridlocked as a result.

(Emon Hassan/The New York Times)

That conflicts with the governor's carefully crafted reputation as the rare politician who will tell it like it is, even when the news is difficult. And the pettiness described in the emails flies against the image Christie's aides have sought to craft for him, of a new kind of leader, above the partisan politics and smallmindedness of Washington.

The emails indicate that Christie's staff and his associates at the Port Authority were closely aware of the political context. Christie, a Republican, was leaning on local Democratic officials to endorse his reelection bid so that he could then seek his party's presidential nomination by arguing that he was the candidate who could attract bipartisan support in a blue state.

Christie won re-election in November by 22 points, and instantly became a New Jersey have long said about the governor: that he is a bully who wields fear and favor to get what he wants, and lashes out at even the smallest perceived slights.

During the campaign, as Christie and his associates leaned on Democratic local officials for endorsements, many mayors whispered that they feared the governor would withhold money or favor if they did not go along. Even Republican lawmakers who have supported Christie tell stories of being punished when he perceived them as not supporting him enough.

The mayor of Fort Lee, Mark Sokolich, is a Democrat and did not endorse Christie. In the obtained emails and texts, Christie's staff and appointees appeared gleeful when the abrupt lane closings gridlocked the town for days, beginning with the first ing?" Wildstein texted Kelly. "No," she texted back.

"I feel badly about the kids," he texted.

"They are the children of Buono voters," she said, referring to Christie's Democratic opponent, Barbara Buono, who was trailing consistently in the polls and lost by a wide margin.

Kelly is one of three deputy chiefs of staff in Christie's office, and a close member of his team.

After the lane closings were reversed by New York officials at the Port Authority, New Jersey officials expressed panic that their plan was not causing enough trouble.

"The New York side gave Fort Lee back all three lanes this morning. We are appropriately going nuts," Wildstein wrote to Kelly. "Samson helping us to retaliate."

"What??" she emailed back. "Yes, unreal. Fixed now," he emailed.□

## Obama administration criticizes zero-tolerance policy in schools

### MOTOKO RICH © 2014 New York Times

The Obama administration issued guidelines Wednesday that recommended public school officials use law enforcement only as a last resort for disciplining students, a response to a rise in zero-tolerance policies that have disproportionately increased the number of arrests, suspensions and expulsions of minority students for even minor, nonviolent offenses.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan and Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. released a 35-page document that outlined approaches - including counseling for students, coaching for teachers and disciplinary officers, and sessions to teach social and emotional skills - that could reduce the time students spend out of school as punishment.

"The widespread use of suspensions and expulsions has tremendous costs," Duncan wrote in a letter to school officials. "Students who are suspended or expelled from school may be unsupervised during daytime hours and cannot benefit from great teaching, positive peer interactions, and adult mentorship offered in class and in school."

Data collected by the Education Department shows that minorities - particularly black boys and students with disabilities - face the harshest discipline in schools. According to the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights, African-Americans without disabilities are more than three times as likely as their white peers to be suspended or expelled from school. And an analysis of the federal data by the Center for Civil Rights Remedies at the University of California, Los Angeles, found that in 10 states, including California, Connecticut, Delaware and Illinois, more than a quarter of black students with disabilities were suspended in the 2009-10 school year.

In addition, students who are eligible for special education services - generally those with disabilities - make up nearly a quarter of those who have been arrested at school, despite representing only 12 percent of the nation's students.

As school districts have placed more police officers on campuses, criminal charges against children have drastically increased, a trend that has alarmed civil rights groups and others concerned about the safety and educational welfare of public-school students.

The Obama administration's document also set guidelines for reducing arrests and keeping discipline within schools. "A routine school disciplinary infraction should land a student in the principal's office, not in a police precinct," Holder said in a statement.

The administration advised schools to focus on creating positive environments, setting clear expectations and consequences for students, and ensuring fairness and equity in disciplinary measures. It also called for districts to collect data on school-based arrests, citations and searches, as well as suspensions and expulsions, and reminded schools of civil rights laws protecting students.

Civil rights groups broadly welcomed the federal guidance. Citing "misuse and overuse of exclusionary school discipline" that fuels a "school to prison pipeline," Deborah J. Vagins, senior legislative counsel at the American Civil Liberties Union's Washington legislative office, called the guidelines "timely and important." Some school districts, including Baltimore, Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles and Broward County, Fla., have already begun to alter their policies and focus more on preventing problem behavior in the first place.



### Driver ordered to trial in fatal Venice Beach crash



Nathan Louis Campbell, 38, a transient from Colorado, enters Los Angeles Superior Court. Campbell must stand trial on charges of murder in the death of a newlywed woman and assault with a deadly weapon, a judge ruled Wednesday.

(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

LINDA DEUTSCH **AP Special Correspondent** LOS ANGELES (AP) — The driver of a car that plowed through crowds on the Venice Beach boardwalk must stand trial on charges of murder in the death of a newlywed woman and assault with a deadly weapon involving more than a

dozen other tourists and vendors who were injured, a judge ruled Wednesday. Nathan Campbell, 38, was bound over for trial after a preliminary hearing of the case before Superior Court Judge Antonio Barretto. Campbell also will face 10 counts of leaving the scene.

### Florida school no longer named for KKK founder

JACKSONVILLE, (AP) — A Jacksonville high school named in 1959 after a former Confederate general and the co-founder of the Ku Klux Klan has a new name, ending a decadeslong debate over the issue. The Duval County School Board voted Tuesday night to change Nathan B. Forrest High to Westside High, to reflect the neighborhood.

The Florida Times-Union reported that the vote was unanimous and drew no discussion from board members.

A school advisory council had asked the board to heritage, not racism. change.

New school board rules prohibit naming schools after people.

Joan Miller Cooper, an alumna who has advocated keeping the old school name, told the school board that the name West-

Florida side is too closely associated with the Westside Mafia gang.

The removal of the names of key Confederate figures, some of whom participated in the early days of the Ku Klux Klan, is trending through the South and other parts of the U.S.

For years, communities have been trying, somesuccessfully, times change names of schools, parks and other facilities because they represented Confederate leaders and ideals. But many defend the names, arguing they commemorate the South's

change the name in 2007, The name of the Jacksonbut then-board mem- ville school has been a bers voted 5-2 against the source of controversy for decades, with school officials continuously refusing to change it despite numerous protests. Opponents of the name change told the school board it would be a waste of money, based on history that may be inaccurate.

a history of petty-crime convictions, has pleaded not guilty. His lawyer, Phillip Dube, has said there was no intent to kill and the event was an accident.

Newlywed Alice Gruppioni, 32, of Bologna, Italy, was on her honeymoon when she was killed in the Aug. 3 incident at the famous Southern California tourist attraction.

Barretto dismissed several counts for technical reasons on a motion by Deputy District Attorney Victor Avila. He also dismissed one count in the case of a woman who was hit but not

Outside court, Dube said his defense would be based on the fact that the used car Campbell was driving had been recalled before he bought it in Colorado

Campbell, a transient with and the problem was not he had a criminal mind, a fixed.

> He said it had a faulty shift lever, which Campbell had to struggle with to get the car to move. When Campbell gunned the gas pedal after several attempts, the car lurched forward through the barriers to the boardwalk, Dube said.

> "He freaked out. She was on the hood of the car," Dube said. "He never intended to hurt anybody or kill anybody. He's not homicidal. He has no violence in his history. It's just a very sad hard luck story."

The car hit Gruppioni first.

After Gruppioni was hit, Campbell panicked and was just trying to get off the boardwalk when he hit 17 other people, Dube said. Dube said the issue for a jury to decide at Campbell's

trial will be "whether or not

criminal intent, rather than acting in a panic mode." Campbell could face a life sentence if convicted of a murder charge. Prosecutors will meet to determine whether the charge will be first-degree murder, which would mean the act was premeditated, or something lesser.

Some 30 witnesses, including tourists from across the country and the world, flew to Los Angeles to testify at the preliminary hearing.

One woman appeared in a wheelchair. Others spoke of their terror when the car came barreling down the boardwalk in the early evening when hundreds of people jammed the strip. Witnesses said the driver maneuvered around barriers and intentionally aimed

at tourists and vendors.





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### Natural gas exports: Slow walk or 'danger zone'?

**MATTHEW DALY Associated Press** WASHINGTON (AP) — The debate over exporting liquefied natural gas is intensifying as the Energy Department considers an array of applications to ship the fuel to Japan, India and other countries where prices are far higher than in the Unit-

ed States.

Some large manufacturers that use natural gas say the department is moving too quickly to approve gas exports, pushing the United States into a "danger zone" that could raise prices and harm the economy. Environmental groups worry that tentative approval of several large export projects may accelerate a fracking boom they say could harm public health and the environment.

Industry groups, meanwhile, say the administration is moving too slowly, with just one of nearly two dozen proposed LNG export terminals given final approval in the past two years. Four other projects have received conditional backing.

"The Department of Energy's slow-walk of LNG export licenses violates our trade obligations" and could cause the U.S. to lose billions of dollars in the global gas market, said Margo Thorning, director of the Act on LNG campaign, an advocacy group that supports gas exports.

"In a perfect world, we'd like to just see them approve all the applications that meet the requirements and let the market figure out which ones are actually going to be built," said Marty Durbin, president and CEO of America's Natural Gas Alliance, an industry group that has pushed for more exports to keep the U.S. competitive in a

global market.

If built, the projects already given tentative or final approval would export about 6.7 billion cubic feet of natural gas a day, enough to meet the needs of nearly 70,000 homes for one year. And that is just the begin-

Improved technology has bargo in the early 1970s. allowed energy companies to gain access to huge stores of natural gas underneath states from Wyoming to Pennsylvania but has raised widespread concerns that it might lead to groundwater contamina-

Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz suggested at an industry gathering last month that it may be time to revisit the ban on crude exports. President Barack Obama has said he generally supports natural gas exports



Tanks at the Cove Point LNG terminal at Cove Point in Calvert County, Md. The debate over exporting liquefied natural gas is intensifying as the Energy Department considers an array of applications to ship the fuel to Japan, India and other countries where prices are far higher than in the United States.

(AP Photo/Dominion Resources)

ning. The proposals considered so far represent less than one-quarter of the total amount energy companies are seeking to export. Energy companies say the U.S. should act now, before other countries such as Russia or Iran approve export projects that could help meet growing energy demands in Asia and other parts of the world.

The push for LNG exports comes amid a boom largely resulting from a drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, which involves pumping huge volumes of water, sand and chemicals underground to split open rocks to allow oil and gas to flow.

tion and even earthquakes. Average wholesale prices for natural gas increased significantly last year to an average of \$3.73 per million British thermal units, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. However, gas prices remain low in historical terms. Increased production kept 2013 prices at the secondlowest level in the past decade, the EIA said.

Overall U.S. natural gas production is expected to grow by about 2 percent this year, the EIA projects. The drilling boom has prompted a push by American oil companies to export crude oil for the first

time since the Arab oil em-

and predicts the U.S. could become a net gas exporter by 2020. Moniz, who took over as energy secretary last year, has pledged to move "expeditiously" on pending applications to export natural gas.

The Energy Department "understands the significance of this issue — as well as the importance of getting it right," said Paula Gant, deputy assistant energy secretary for oil and natural gas. The high stakes are illustrated by the conflicting views of U.S. manufacturers. Most business groups back LNG exports as a way to reduce the nation's trade deficit and support thousands of jobs.

#### FDA approves new medication for diabetes

M. PERRONE **AP Health Writer** WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday approved a new diabetes drug from Bristol-Myers Squibb and AstraZeneca

that uses a novel approach to reduce blood sugar. Farxiga is a once-a-day tablet designed to help diabetes patients eliminate excess sugar via their urine. That differs from older drugs that decrease the amount of sugar absorbed from food and stored in the liver. The drug is the second product approved in the U.S. from the new class of medicines known as SGLT2 drugs. In March the FDA approved Johnson & Johnson's Invokana, which also works by eliminating excess sugar through patients' urine. The agency cleared Farxiga tablets for patients with type 2 diabetes. The approval marks a comeback for the drug, which was previously rejected last year after studies raised concerns about links to bladder cancer and liver toxicity.

Ten cases of bladder cancer were found in patients taking the drug in clinical trials, so Farxiga's label warns against using it in patients with the disease. A panel of FDA advisers last month said that the uptick in cancers was likely a statistical fluke, and not related to the drug. But the FDA is requiring Bristol and AstraZeneca to track rates of bladder cancer in patients enrolled in a long-term follow up study. The companies will also monitor rates of heart disease, a frequent safety issue with newer diabetes medications.



#### **US Financial Front:**

### American holiday sales up, but fewer people in stores



Shoppers rush for after Christmas day sale at Nordstrom department store in downtown Chicago in this Thursday, Dec. 26, 2013 photo. Sales during the 2013 U.S. holiday season grew from a year earlier as deep discounting and increased promotions encouraged consumers to buy more.

(AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh)

A. D'INNOCENZIO **AP Retail Writer** 

dow shopping is taking on stores. a new meaning for many ShopperTrak, which tracks Americans.

that U.S. shoppers increas-

clothes, TVs and shoes online, or "virtual window **NEW YORK (AP)** — Win- shop," before heading to

data at 40,000 stores in the The latest sales data from U.S., said on Tuesday that the holiday season shows sales for in November and December rose 2.7 percent ingly prefer to research to \$265.9 billion. That was better than the 2.4 percent growth the data tracker expected for the season.

Sales may have grown, but there were fewer people in stores. In fact, the number of store visits shoppers made during the holiday season dropped 14.6 percent to 17.6 billion.

The data signals a continued shift in how Americans are shopping. Analysts say if shoppers are doing most of their research before they get to stores, they will be less likely to browse the racks and shelves once they're in stores. And ultimately, that could change how stores market to shop-

C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, a consumer research company, said shoppers came into stores during the holiday season with a list of specific of things to buy to make sure they wouldn't spend more. "They did less browsing," he said.

"They knew exactly what they wanted to buy."

Andrew McSherry, 44, said he certainly shops that way. "I tend to do precision shopping," said McSherry, who lives in Atlanta. "I'm not a browser. I'm a person who figures out what I want and goes to get it."

The ShopperTrak numbers, which do not include online sales, in some ways give retailers hope for their brick-and-mortar stores. The data shows that Americans are at least still willing to go into stores despite the fact that they've been spending more online in recent years.

To be sure, online sales did grow during the holiday season. But they weren't as robust as previously expected.

Online sales, not included those from mobile devices, rose 10 percent to \$46.5 billion in November and December, according to comScore. That was lower than the 14 percent growth the research firm had expected.

The National Retail Federation, the largest U.S. retail trade group, is expected to release holiday sales numbers for online and stores combined on Tuesday. The group estimates that sales grew 3.9 percent to \$602.1 billion. That would be higher than the 3.5 percent increase that it calculated in 2012.

### US consumer borrowing up \$12.3 billion for November

**JOSH BOAK AP Economics Writer** WASHINGTON (AP)

Americans increased their borrowing in November, led by continued gains in lion after surging in Octoauto and student loans.

The Federal Reserve says consumers increased their borrowing by \$12.3 billion in November to a seasonally adjusted \$3.09 trillion. That is a record level and follows an October increase of \$17.9 billion.

Almost all of the Novem-\$11.9 billion rise in borrow-reached in 2008.

ing for auto loans and student loans.

Borrowing in the category that covers credit cards ticked up only \$457.8 milber.

Credit card borrowing plunged after the Great Recession and consumers remain cautious about taking on high-interest debt. It has gradually increased to its highest level in more than three years, but it's still 16 percent below its peak ber increase came from an of more than \$1 trillion







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#### UK:

### Deadly chopper crash under investigation

#### **DANICA KIRKA Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — Authorities in England cordoned flooded marshes Wednesday to investigate the crash of a military helicopter that killed four U.S. Air Force crewmembers.

The Pave Hawk helicopter slammed into the eastern coast during a low-level training mission Tuesday

cult terrain on the marsh." Local authorities are carrying out a daylight investigation, and the bodies will be removed afterward. The aircraft was assigned to the 48th Fighter Wing. One victim, 28-year-old son, Capt. Christopher Stover, was identified by his family in Vancouver, Washington. The names of other three have yet to be

downed air crew members or other personnel during war and other hostile situations. They typically practice flying low and fast, often at altitudes of hundreds, rather than thousands, of feet.

The choppers are highly regarded and have no known safety issues, said Peter Felstead, the editor of IHS Jane's Defence



The wreckage of a US Military Air Force Pave Hawk helicopter, partially obscured in front of helicopter right, lies on the ground in Salthouse, England, Wednesday Jan. 8, 2014, after the helicopter crashed late Tuesday killing all four crew members aboard.

evening. Teams combing the marshes have been hampered by bullets scattered across the scene and have not yet recovered the crew's remains.

"We have currently cordoned off about 400 square meters (500 square yards) of the marshland area," said Chief Superintendent Bob Scully of Norfolk Police. "The crash site itself I would describe as an area of debris on diffireleased, pending family notification.

The Pave Hawk copter assigned to the 48th Fighter Wing was based at the Royal Air Force station in Lakenheath. It was flying low at the time of the

Pave Hawks — a modified version of the betterknown Black Hawks — are mostly used for combat search-and-rescue sions, mainly to recover (AP Photo/PA, Chris Radburn)

Weekly.

"It's very difficult to know if there is a mechanical problem or something other than that," he said, adding the flooded marshes will complicate the recovery of debris.

The helicopter plummeted into the Norfolk Wildlife Trust Cley Marshes Nature Reserve. The aircraft was based at the nearby Royal Air Force station in Lakenheath.

### Merkel to visit US amid NSA discord

BERLIN (AP) — German Chancellor Angela Merkel has accepted an invitation to visit the United States, months after allegations that U.S. intelligence had tapped her phone strained relations between Berlin and Washington.

In a call Wednesday, President Barack Obama congratulated Merkel on forming a new government last month and wished her

recent skiing accident.

Merkel's spokesman, Steffen Seibert, said Obama also invited Merkel to Washington "in the coming months," which she accepted.

The White House said both leaders noted the agenda that awaits them this year, including negotiations toward a proposed free-trade deal between the U.S. and the EU, and a

speedy recovery from a NATO summit in the spring. Merkel has previously said the relationship between Germany and the U.S. was "put on test" by allegations of massive spying by the U.S. National Security Agency, including on foreign leaders.

> The White House has denied that the U.S. is listening in on Merkel's phone calls now, but hasn't ruled out that this happened in the past.

### Eurozone's economy showing glimmers of hope for recovery

**PAN PYLAS Associated Press** 

**LONDON (AP)** — Glimmers of hope emerged Wednesday for the eurozone economy to suggest that the coming year will see the recovery gathering steam. Official figures showed a stabilization in unemployment and the biggest increase in monthly retail sales in 12 years.

Eurostat, the EU's statistics office, said the eurozone's unemployment rate held steady in November at a record 12.1 percent for the eighth month running after a modest 4,000 rise in the ranks of the jobless to 19.24 million. Since September's 12.2 percent rate was revised down, 12.1 percent is now the record.

The agency also said retail sales during the month spiked by 1.4 percent, way ahead of predictions in the markets for a more modest increase of around 0.3 percent. The rise was the biggest since November 2001.

Though much of the increase was due to a 2.1 percent rise in France, where consumers may have brought forward purchases ahead of a sales tax rise, analysts said the figures suggest households are increasingly confident that the financial crisis is past its worst and that the recovery has leas.

The increase followed two monthly declines and was fairly broad-based across the eurozone. The Iberian economies of Spain and Portugal did particularly well, posting gains of 1.9 percent and 3.1 percent.

"The outlook is starting to brighten a little for eurozone consumers," said James Howat, European economist at Capital Economics.

Despite the signs of improvement, the eurozone continues to face huge problems and most economists think it will remain the laggard of the world economy. However, few think the European Central Bank will change its monetary policy at its monthly meeting on Thursday.

"The ECB may want to keep some ammunition in its back pocket in case of emergencies," said Kathleen Brooks, research director at Forex.com.

Among the challenges will be to get unemployment down and prevent deflation, a sustained fall in prices that can encourage consumers to put off purchases in the hope of getting better bargains further down the line.

Wednesday's figures highlighted disparities across the eurozone, which had 17 members in November — the bloc grew to 18 members following Latvia's adoption of Europe's single currency at the start of the year.

While countries like Germany and Austria have unemployment rates around 5 percent, those at the forefront of Europe's debt crisis, such as Greece and Spain, have over one in four of their people out of work.

The situation among the young there is even worse, though Greece appears to be showing some improvement on that front, with 54.8 percent of those aged 15-24 out of work at last count in September, compared with 57.7 percent the previous month.

Policymakers are hoping the eurozone's return to economic growth may get unemployment down. So far, the eurozone's recovery from its longest-ever — though not deepest — recession has been paltry but most economists are predicting a modest pick up this year, with even Greece emerging from a six-year depression that has seen its overall economic output shrink by over a fifth. Because it takes a few months for changes in economic growth to affect the labor market, and as many governments continue to make spending cuts to get public finances into shape, most economists think it will be some time before there's a real drop in unemployment.

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Greek Cabinet and European Union Commissioners pose for photographers during the take over ceremony of the six-month rotation of the Greek EU Presidency at Zappeion Hall in Athens, on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014.

(AP Photo/Thanassis Stavrakis)

### Praise, traffic as Greece assumes EU presidency

**ELENA BECATOROS NICHOLAS PAPHITIS Associated Press** 

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — European Union leaders praised Greece's efforts to fix its crisis-hit economy Wednesday, as the country formally assumed the bloc's rotating presidency amid strict police security that left traffic in the capital at a standstill for hours.

"The challenges are still immense, social conditions unacceptable levels," European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said at a ceremony with Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras. "But important progress was achieved. Greece is turning around its economy."

Reeling under a gaping budget deficit and massive debt, Greece has been defrom other EU countries hours in a broad swathe of that use the euro as their the city center. currency and from the International Monetary Fund roads and subway stations, since May 2010.

In return for billions of euros in bailout loans, successive governments have had to impose harsh austerity measures in an effort to overhaul the country's are still demanding, and economy. The spending unemployment remains at cuts and repeated tax hikes have led to deep resentment among many Greeks, sparking a string of general strikes and often violent protests.

> To avoid embarrassment at Wednesday's ceremonies in Athens — also attended by European Council Presi-

dent Herman Van Rompuy and commissioners from across the EU — police pendent on rescue loans banned all protests for 18

> Authorities also shut down as more than 2,000 policemen enforced a giant cordon around the inaugural events, causing traffic jams across the city for most of the day. About 400 leftwing supporters who tried to defy the protest ban far from the venues briefly scuffled with police late Wednesday before being dispersed with tear gas. One protester was arrested.

Athens hopes to emerge from a grueling six-year recession in the next six months, and negotiate a landmark deal with bailout creditors to make its massive national debt sustain-

Samaras said that during its presidency of the 28-nation bloc, Greece would focus on economic recovery, fighting unemployment and tackling security issues, including migration.

Alexis Tsipras, head of the main opposition radical left Syriza party, did not attend the events, drawing criticism from the governing two-party coalition.

Barroso stressed that financial rescue packages do work, pointing to the success of Ireland, which managed this year to leave its own bailout program and return to borrowing on the international bond market. He urged Greece to stick to its own reforms and "not to

give up."

"Programs work, and we should not waste the efforts made so far," he said, adding that he was "fully aware" of the difficulties Greece and its people were going through.

"As I said exactly one year ago, 2013 would be, and it was, the year when the European economy would start to turn the corner," Barroso said, adding that not so long ago, some were speculating that Greece would be forced to leave the euro and that the joint currency would implode. "The very fact that we are

here today, celebrating the Greek presidency ... is clear evidence that those predictions were wrong," he said. The Greek presidency ends June 30.



### Rodman sings to North Korean leader at exhibition

#### **Continued from Front**

Some members of the U.S. Congress, the NBA and human rights groups, however, say he has become a public relations tool for North Korea's government. The government's poor

considered his mentor, executed after being accused of a litany of crimes including corruption, womanizing, drug abuse and attempting to seize power. Rodman, 52, has refused to address those concerns while continuing to forge a relationship with

Birthday" to Kim, who was seated above in the stands at the stadium, and then bowed deeply as North Korean players clapped.

To keep it friendly, the Americans played against the North Koreans in the first half, but split up and merged teams for the sec-

"A lot of people have expressed different views about me and your leader, your marshal, and I take that as a compliment," Rodman told the crowd. He has carefully avoided getting involved in overtly political activities, say-

#### Holland pension manager divests from Israel banks

**TOBY STERLING Associated Press** AMSTERDAM (AP) — PGGM of the Netherlands, one of the 20 largest pension asset managers globally, said Wednesday it has divested from five Israeli banks because they are involved in

financing the construction of Jewish settlements in oc-

cupied territories.

In financial terms the move is not that significant, given that PGGM had only several tens of millions invested in the banks out of the more than \$170 billion in assets it manages. Yet it is the latest in a string of rebuffs to hit Israel over its settlement policies.

PGGM spokesman Wout Dekker confirmed move first reported by the Haaretz newspaper. He said the decision followed years of discussions with the banks.

PGGM said it considers the settlements unethical due to the International Court of Justice's 2004 advisory opinion that found they were an illegal violation of Palestinian rights.

That sentiment, rejected by Israel, is shared by most of the international community.

"In line with our policy of responsible investment, we sought a dialogue with the banks," PGGM said. "However, from those talks it emerged that the banks have little to no room to end their involvement in the financing of settlements in the occupied territories, given Israeli national law and the everyday reality in which they operate." Some 550,000 Israelis now live in settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, captured by Israel in 1967 along with the Gaza Strip. The 2.5 million Palestinians living in occupied territories want a state in those lands and say Israel's settlement building program jeopardizes peace talks and pre-empts their outcome.

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Yigal Palmor slammed PGGM for the move.



A protester wearing a mask of a pig depicting North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, left, and another wearing a mask of former NBA player Dennis Rodman, during an anti-North Korea rally on what is believed to be the birthday of Kim, in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014. More than 100 anti-North Korea protesters and North Korean defectors attended the rally denouncing the North's human rights record and nuclear tests. The writing on the left reads "Little pig, Kim Jong Un."

(AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)

human rights record and its threats to use nuclear weapons against rival South Korea and the United States have kept it a pariah state. Kim shocked the world in December by having his uncle, once Kim, whose age has never been officially disclosed. The government did not say how old he turned Wednesday but he is believed to be in his early 30s. At the start of the game, Rodman sang "Happy ond half.

The North Korean team scored 47 points to 39 for the Americans before the teams were mixed.

Rodman played only in the first half and then sat next to Kim during the second

ing that he is not a statesman and instead is seeking only to build cultural connections with the North through basketball that may help improve relations between Pyongyang and Washington.

### Syria rebels seize al-Qaida base in north

#### **DIAA HADID Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Syrian rebels ousted an al-Qaida linked group from its local headquarters in a key northern city Wednesday, part of a widening campaign against the extremist group in opposition-held areas, eign journalists have been. But the Iraqi-based network activists said.

formerly a children's hospithe intensity of the rebelraged for days between

their one-time allies, fighters from the Islamic State of Iraa and the Levant.

Meanwhile, two Swedish journalists who were abducted in Syria were released after a month and a half in captivity.

Dozens of local and forkilled or kidnapped in Syria. The capture of the base, The Islamic State of Iraq tactics and trying to imand the Levant and anothtal in Aleppo, underscores er al-Qaida linked group of Islamic law, alienating known as Jabhat al-Nus- other factions and leading on-rebel fighting that has ra, or Nusra Front, initially to some of the worst infightjoined forces with moder- ing of the conflict. moderate factions and ate rebels fighting to oust A spokesman for the Is-

President Bashar Assad in a conflict that began in March 2011 as a popular uprising but morphed into a civil war.

The extremists proved wellorganized and efficient fighters, giving the ragtag rebels a boost.

began employing brutal pose its strict interpretation

lamic State of Iraq and the Levant vowed to crush the rival rebel groups.

"Know that we have armies in Iraq and Syria ... we warn you," the spokesman, known as Abu Mohammed al-Adnani, said in an audio clip posted overnight on militant websites.

"We will crush them and kill the conspiracy in its cradle," he said.

The authenticity of the recording, which was posted on militant websites, could not be independently verified.



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### Slain actress highlights Venezuela's continued crime woes

#### **FRANK BAJAK JORGE RUEDA Associated Press** CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

 A popular soap-opera actress and former Miss Venezuela, 29-year-old Monica Spear surely could have afforded to vacation elsewhere.

Yet she and her ex-husband, who worked in the travel industry, spent New Year's in the mountains of western Venezuela with their 5-year-old daughter then visited the plains of Apure state.

On their return by car to Caracas, Spear and Thomas Henry Berry, a 39-yearold British citizen, became the latest symbols of the rampant violent crime that is afflicting this oil-rich na-

Robbers shot and killed the two and wounded their daughter on an isolated stretch of highway when they tried to foil the assault by locking themselves inside their car, which had been disabled by tire punctures, police said Tuesday. The slayings late Monday outraged Venezuelans, triggering a wave of calls for action on social media. TV personality Camila Canabal expressed what many were feeling in a tweet: "Sadness, anger, indignation, impotence, shame and pain, pain, pain, dammit!!!"

"Monica and Thomas are the face of thousands of men and woman whose children have been left without parents because of the violence of Venezu ela," she added.

Their daughter, Maya, was in stable condition after treatment for a leg wound and was with relatives in Caracas, authorities said. Fatal shootings are common in armed robberies in Venezuela, and rampant kidnapping has ensnared even foreign ambassadors and professional baseball players.

Violent crime soared during the 14-year rule of Hugo Chavez, who died of cancer last March. The country has one of the world's highest murder rates — the United Nations has ranked it 5th globally.

The slaying of Spear and her ex-husband followed a pattern of late-night assaults carried out by disabling cars with obstacles placed on roadways.

They were killed at about 10:30 p.m. between Puerto Cabello, the country's main port, and the provincial capital of Valencia, while on a badly maintained stretch of highway that is lightly traveled at that hour.

Their four-door sedan hit "a sharp object that had been placed on the highway" which punctured at least two of its tires, the director of the country's investigative police, Jose Gregorio Sierralta, told reporters.

Two tow trucks arrived almost immediately afterward, said Sierralta, and the attack occurred after the car had been lifted onto one of the trucks.

Seeing the assailants coming, the travelers locked themselves inside and the assailants fired at least six shots, he said.

"They fired with viciousness," President Nicolas Maduro said of the attack-

Police in Puerto Cabello arrested five suspects, some under the age of 18, Sierralta said. It could not immediately be determined if Spear and Berry had called

the tow trucks, or if any of the drivers were among those arrested for suspected involvement in the kill-

Luis Carlos Dominguez, a longtime friend and former business associate of English-born Berry, said he was raised in Venezuela and ran a travel agency.



A man with a printed T-shirt joins a protest against the murder of actress Monica Spear and her ex-husband Henry Thomas Berry in Caracas, Venezuela, Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014. The T-shirt he wears shows a picture of Spear and reads in Spanish "We're all Monica." Venezuelan authorities say the former Miss Venezuela and her ex-husband were shot and killed resisting a robbery after their car broke down late Monday, Jan. 6, 2014 near Puerto Cabello, Venezuela's main port. (AP Photo/Alejandro Cegarra)

### **UN agency wants probe of Brazil prison violence**

#### **STAN LEHMAN Associated Press**

**SAO PAULO (AP)**—The United Nation's human rights agency called Wednesday for an "immediate, impartial and effective investigation" into the violence that has swept through a penitentiary in northeastern Bra- on the website of the Folha zil where at least 60 inmates d S.Paulo newspaper. It were killed in 2013 in clash- said inmates recorded the es between rival gangs.

The U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Human on camera are part of a Rights said in a statement that it was concerned with trolled violence in Maran-Brazil" and asked authori- Canineu, Brazil director of

to restore order at the Pedrinhas penitentiary in Maranhao state.

The violence in the penitentiary was highlighted Tuesday when a gruesome video purporting to show the decapitated bodies of three inmates was posted images on Dec.17.

"The grisly crimes caught broader problem of unconganization Human Rights to hold 1,770 inmates has Watch said in a statement. "The state urgently needs to investigate these crimes, restore order in the prisons, and ensure the inmates' safety."

Judge Douglas Martins recently issued a report saying that state authorities have been unable to state government for furcontrol the situation at Pedrinhas that stem from its overcrowded conditions, gang fights and the orders given by gang leaders to rape women who are visthe "dire state of prisons in hao's prisons," Maria Laura iting husbands, sons and brothers.

ties to move immediately the non-governmental or- Pedrinhas which was built state prison system.

a current prison population of nearly 2,200.

The Maranhao state government said in a statement that Martins' findings were based on "untruths aimed at worsening the situation inside the state's prison system." Calls to the ther comment went unanswered.

The rights group Amnesty International also expressed concern Wednesday with the "increasing violence and lack of concrete solutions" in the Maranhao



### Cuba, US to restart migration talks in Havana

**PETER ORSI Associated Press** 

**HAVANA (AP)** — Cuban and U.S. representatives are set to meet in Havana for a new round of restarted migration talks on Thursday, a signal of the longtime Cold War foes' recent willingness to engage in areas of mutual interest but unlikely to be a harbinger of a major thaw in relations. The meetings are supposed to be held every six months to discuss the implementation of 1990s accords under which the United States agreed to issue 20,000 immigration visas annually to Cubans.

"Under the Accords, both governments pledge to promote safe, legal and orderly migration between Cuba and the United States. The agenda for the talks reflects longstandina U.S. priorities on Cuba migration issues," the U.S. State Department said in a brief statement. "This does not represent any change in policy towards Cuba." Cuban authorities did not immediately respond to a

request for comment. In the past, the talks have also been used as opportunities to broach other topics — a rare chance for dialogue between nations that do not have full diplomatic ties and have been at each other's throats since shortly after the 1959 Cuban Revolution.

The migration talks, along with separate discussions aimed restarting direct mail service, were suspended in 2011 after the arrest of U.S. government subcontractor Alan Gross in Cuba in 2009.

Gross was accused of acting against Cuba's national sovereignty and sentenced to 15 years. He maintains that his work setting up hard-to-detect Internet networks for the island's Jewish community posed

the Obama administration decided early last year not to let the case stand in the way of all engagement.

Representatives of the two governments met multiple times in 2013, and diplomats on both sides say they



Key West Mayor Craig Cates, right, waves goodbye as he boards a chartered aircraft at Key West International Airport that flew to Havana, Cuba. The trip was the first legal commercial passenger flight from Key West to Cuba in more than 50 years. Cuban and U.S. representatives are set to meet in Havana for a new round of restarted migration talks on Thursday, a signal of the longtime Cold War foes' recent willingness to engage in areas of mutual interest but unlikely to be a harbinger of a major thaw in relations.

(AP Photo/Florida Keys News Bureau)

Discussions held on migration in July 2013 were the first between the two countries since 2011. Multiple meetings on mail service were also held last year.

no threat to the state. His imprisonment remains a major point of contenbetween Havana tion and Washington. But dip-

lomats say privately that

enjoy cordial personal relationships with their counter-

The most recent discussions in Havana in September focused on mail delivery.

### Mozambique questions Rwandan on spy chief case

**RAY FAURE Associated Press** JOHANNESBURG (AP) —

Mozambican police questioned a Rwandan military officer in connection with the murder in South Africa of a former Rwandan spymaster, a private investigator said Wednesday.

had been questioned, but it was unclear if he or any other Rwandan nationals were being held in the neighboring country.

Gakwerere's name was on a list of seven people claimed in a blog run by Rwandan dissidents to be-

long to a hit squad sent to South Africa to eliminate former Rwandan external intelligence chief Col. Patrick Karegeya.

The former spymaster's body was discovered in a plush Johannesburg hotel on New Year's Day. The dissidents' blog said its infor-Chad Thomas said a Rwan- mation came from informdan by the name of Lt. ers. It charged that some of Col. Francis Gakwerere the men on the list entered South Africa via Mozambique.

> "Gakwerere was also a prime suspect in the failed hit on Gen. Kayumba Nyamwasa in 2010, but there was insufficient evidence to allow the charg-

who would not disclose who hired his company's services.

A report in South Africa's New Age newspaper on Wednesday said that three Rwandan nationals had been arrested in a hotel in the Mozambican capital Maputo for the murder. But a spokesman for the police elite investigative unit The Hawks, Capt. Paul Ramaloko, said: "That's not correct. Investigations are continuing but so far no arrests have been made."

He added that the unit was receiving a "lot of sensitive information" regarding the case, all of which had to es to stick," said Thomas, be verified. Local police

were working closely with their Rwandan and Mozambican counterparts on the matter, he said.

Members of the Rwandan opposition and family and friends of Karegeya have accused Rwandan President Paul Kagame of being behind the killing.

Police believe Karegeya might have been stranaled as a cord and bloodied towel were found at the murder scene.

Meanwhile, several sources - including Thomas - claim that the last man seen with Kareaeva, Rwandan businessman Apollo Kiririsi Gafaranga, has been sighted back in Rwanda.

#### **Eurozone makes** carbon pollution more expensive

JUERGEN BAETZ **Associated Press** BRUSSELS (AP) — It will become more expensive for businesses in the European Union to burn fossil fuels this year after the 28-country bloc decided Wednesday

to beef up its carbon trad-

ing system. The agreement ended a year of bickering over how to amend what is Europe's prime tool in the fight against climate change and the world's biggest emission trading system.

Under the cap-and-trade scheme, companies pay per ton of carbon dioxide they release into the atmosphere, with the pollution certificates traded on the market. The EU now decided to postpone the sale of 900 million additional carbon allowances — a move that will tighten supply and likely drive up prices of carbon allowances by 10 to 15 percent, according to analysts.

The tightening of the market is set to take effect this spring, EU Commission spokesman Isaac Valero

European business lobbies vigorously opposed beefing up the carbon market, saying it would raise energy prices and broader operating costs, undermining companies' competitiveness. The 28-nation EU, the world's largest economy, introduced the system in 2005 to encourage industries to reduce emissions and invest in greener technologies.

Companies can trade these certificates, providing an incentive to cut emissions. Over time, the number of allowances will be lowered, cutting the overall emissions in the EU. However, the system ran into problems when the prices for licenses dropped amid lower-than-expected demand because of Europe's stalling economy. The low price, which is currently just below 5 euros (\$6.8) per ton, reduces companies' incentives to invest in new, less-polluting technology.



### Acqua Condominium Aruba: The Essence of a Lifestyle



PALM BEACH - Acqua Condominium Aruba, a project spearheaded by Acqua Construction, on 325,278 sq. ft. of prime property land on Palm Beach announced recently that construction has been progressing at a satisfactory pace and that the sales gallery as well as the model-suite within the Sabbia Tower, are ready to welcome tours and inquiries, seven days a week.

The developer has also recently incentivized your purchase with the following super deals! Right now, with a deposit of 30%, you will receive 10% discount, and with a deposit of 50% your discount becomes 15%! Additionally enticing, by paying in full you will receive 25% discount!

At Acqua a beautiful two bedroom apartment

with two bathrooms starts at \$296,800, with a cash deal on this price starting at \$222,600.

The Sabbia Tower, overlooking Palm Beach boasts 208, 2-bedroom condos, with 2 baths each, spread over 14 floors. The two top building floors embrace 16 penthouse apartments with majestic views.

The two condo towers, on the already fully-fenced property, will be complemented by a two-story shopping complex, facing the Palm Beach Plaza Mall, with commercial space for trendy restaurants and upscale shops.

Making the decision on a purchase, and acting on it fast, was recently made even more imperative, in view of the fact that the island government of Aruba reiter-



ated its commitment to a building moratorium for the next 10 years, making Acqua Condominium a truly unique investment opportunity, as it is the one and only high-rise condo project, on property land, in the island's most-desired location.

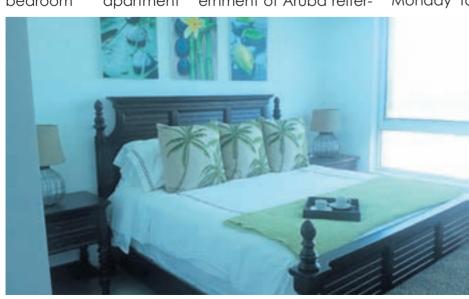
If the image of Aqua Condominium tugs at your heartstrings, you are invited to visit the sales gallery and the elegant model-suites available for viewing, fully finished with luxurious touches and high-end amenities. The sales center is open Monday to Friday from



8:30am to 5:30pm; Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 2pm: A gorgeous model unit is available for you to preview! Meet the sales team who will guide you through the purchase of the stylish condo of your

dreams, allowing you to return to Aruba as often as you wish.

You will find the website very helpful with all legal documents, floor plans, furnishings and finishings, posted on line: www.acquaruba.com.







### Join the Jolly Pirates' "Save the Reefs" efforts:

### Kids learn firsthand how we each can make a difference!



**ORANJESTAD** - The underwater playground of Aruba's reefs are a joy to visitors and considered a treasure to the local population, but it also represents home and breeding sites for reef fish as well as an important part of the overall marine ecosystem. Education continues to play a key role in

helping to protect and preserve both Aruba's marine life and reefs, and Jolly Pirates are helping to head that cause with its own "Save the Reefs" Bracelet Program. Funds generated from the program recently went to sponsor school kids attendance in classes on water safety, fish identifica-

tion and responsible sailing and snorkeling.

Harald Buser, who operates the Jolly Pirates excursions for more than sixteen years explains, "it's time to devote myself to this worthy cause – To raise more awareness for healthy coral reefs in Aruba Carla Cavallaro, of the Jolly Pirates

designed a trio of bracelets which their snorkel and sunset sail guests are offered in exchange for a small donation. All funds raised go into educational programs and protection efforts to preserve Aruba's spectacular underwater landscapes of coral reefs." The majority of children who benefitted from the recent program happen to share an affinity with the sea as second and third generation kids of families involved in water sports. After participating in an essay contest, the kids enjoyed instruction from Canicio Van Der Biezen, and then practiced their newly-learned skills on a sail aboard the Jolly Pirates. The program was a success through the generous contributions of many individuals, including school teachers, boat captains, master divers and rescue workers, as well as each person who chose to donate through Jolly Pirates' Bracelet Program.

"Giving back to Aruba is easy when you consider all that the island has given me," comments Carla, who watches her own son Tyler grow up with a love of the sea. "We've been blessed to find home, happiness and business success in Aruba, and it only makes sense that to do our

part in ensuring we help protect the island's treasured marine environment for the next generation. It will be these kids who eventually take the reins in helping to realize a marine park for Aruba."

In exchange for a donation of \$15.00, visitors to the Jolly Pirates gift shop at MooMba Beach receive an attractive bracelet trio. Each dollar -- 100% of the donation -- is given to the Marine Park Foundation for the Save the Reefs Programs. While guests can feel good about contributing to valuable education efforts, they can also use the bracelets as a special gift or as an Aruba souvenir. A special thank you goes to everyone who made a donation and wears the Jolly Pirates Awareness Bracelets! Each person who purchases the bracelets can feel good knowing that donations are being used well!

To become a member of either the Aruba Heritage Museum Foundation or the Aruba Marine Park Foundation or participate in their projects, call: (297)736-2273, or visit the Aruba Marine Park Foundation face book page or email them at arubaheritagemuseum@gmail.com and or arubamarinepark@gmail.com.



### Aruba says 'Masha Danki' to Geoffrey and Debbie Kurinsky!





**EAGLE BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very special couple whom are loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Costa Linda Beach Resort as Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of

appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-ormore consecutive years. The honorees were Geoffrey and Debbie Kurinsky from Needham, Massachusetts. Geoffrey and Debbie are loyal members of the Costa Linda Beach Resort and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches,

restaurants, casinos and great entertainment, and because being on Aruba and staying at the Costa Linda is like being home for them. The certificates were presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Lina Asaytuno and Gloria Janga representing the Costa Linda Beach Resort.





### Hayward's career-high 37 lifts Jazz past Thunder

#### The Associated Press SALT LAKE CITY (AP) —

Gordon Hayward scored a career-high 37 points, including Utah's final 17 points, to help the Jazz overcome Kevin Durant's 48 points and beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 112-101 on Tuesday night. After the Thunder sliced a 24-point Jazz lead to 99-94, Hayward made five straight jumpers — two of them 3-pointers — in his personal 17-7 run to clinch Utah's fourth straight home win. Hayward went 13 for 16 from the field and had 11 rebounds and seven assists. Derrick Favors had 15 and Marvin Williams scored 12 as the Jazz stopped the Thunder's eight-game road winning streak.

Without Russell Westbrook and Serge Ibaka, Durant took the ball nearly every possession in the fourth quarter. He made 11 of 13 from the line in the final 12 minutes while matching this season's NBA-high



Utah Jazz guard Gordon Hayward (20) is defended by Oklahoma City Thunder guard Jeremy Lamb (11) during the second half of their NBA basketball game in Salt Lake City, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2014. The Jazz won 112-101.

scoring total that he set against the Timberwolves on Saturday.

**CAVALIERS 111, 76ERS 93** 

CLEVELAND (AP) — C.J. Miles set a team record with 10 3-pointers and scored a season-high 34 points, leading the Cavaliers to the victory.b Miles made eight 3s in the first half, when the Cavs opened a 26-point lead that allowed them to coast to a rare easy win. He notched his ninth with 9:53 left and drained No. 10 with 9:17 remaining. He went 10 of 14 from outside the arc. Cleveland's second victory in 10 games came hours after the club acquired forward Luol Deng from Chicago in a trade for center Andrew Bynum and future draft picks. Deng wasn't in uniform, but Cavs All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving returned after missing three games with a bruised left knee and finished with 16 points.

Continued on Page 20

Chicago White Sox slugger Frank Thomas smiles as he responds to a question during a news conference about his selection into the MLB Baseball Hall Of Fame Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014, at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago.

#### **Associated Press**

#### By RONALD BLUM **AP Sports Writer** NEW YORK (AP) -- Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine and Frank Thomas were elected to baseball's Hall of Fame on Wednesday, while Craig Biggio fell two

votes short and tainted stars of the Steroids Era remained a long way from Cooperstown.

Maddux was picked on 555 of 571 ballots by senior members of the Baseball Writers' Association of

## Maddux, Glavine, Thomas elected to Hall of Fame

**Associated Press** 

America. His 97.2 percentage was the eighth-highest in the history of voting.

Glavine, Maddux's longtime teammate in the Atlanta rotation, appeared on 525 ballots and received 91.9 percent. Thomas, the first Hall of Famer who spent the majority of his career as a designated hitter, was at 483 and 83.7 percent.

Thomas said he accepts the view of many Hall of Famers that players whose accomplishments muddied by accusations of steroid use, such as Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens, don't belong in the Hall.

"I've got to take the right stance, too. No, they shouldn't get in," he said. ances was in 1999 with No-"There shouldn't be cheating allowed to get into the Hall of Fame.''

The trio will be inducted July 27 along with managers Bobby Cox, Joe Torre and Tony La Russa, elected last month by the expansionera committee. Maddux and Glavine, who played under Cox for most of their careers, will become the first pair of 300-game winners to be inducted in the same year.

"It's exciting for me to go in with my teammate," Maddux said.

The only other time three players were elected together in their first appearlan Ryan, George Brett and Robin Yount.

Biggio received 427 votes and 74.8 percent, matchina Nellie Fox in 1985 and Pie Traynor in 1947 for the smallest margin to just miss. Traynor made it the following year, and Fox was elected by the old Veterans Committee in 1997.

Biggio, who spent his entire career with the Houston Astros, appeared on 388 ballots last year in his initial appearance - when writers failed to elect anyone and appears to be on track to gain election next year.

Continued on Page 21



### U.S. LPGA Tour goes to points race with a big payoff

#### **DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer**

The U.S. LPGA Tour is going to a points race this year, offering \$1 million to the winner of the new "Race to the CME Globe."

Instead of the U.S. PGA Tour's model of four tournaments with gradually reduced fields leading to the Tour Championship, the women will earn points for 31 events going into the CME Group Tour Championship. The points will be reset giving weight to whoever had the best year. The winner will receive a \$1 million bonus.

The race will be the "bow on the present" of the women's tour's strongest schedule in years, tour commissioner Mike Whan said on Wednesday. It has added events in Michigan and San Francisco, and created an Olympicsstyled event called the Intion of golfers.

Whan hinted at a season points race when the tour wrapped up its season in November, saying he liked the idea of two trophies presented at the end of the year.

The FedEx Cup on the men's tour began in 2007 and went through three years of changes to cut through the confusion. The European Tour followed shortly after with its "Race to Dubai" to culminate with four big events at the end.

Jon Podany, the chief marketing officer for the U.S. LPGA Tour, said the top 72 players in the Race to the CME Globe would qualify for the Tour Championship. The reset will be structured in such a way that only the top three in the standings can guarantee the \$1 million bonus by winning the ternational Crown aimed tournament, while only the

at determining the best na- top nine in the standings will have a mathematical chance to win the bonus and a crystal globe.

> Whan said it would be possible for the Race for the CME Globe to end in a tie, in which case the players would return to the 18th hole at Tiburon for a playoff for a chance to win \$1

"I'm praying for one of these years to have a playoff," he said.

If it had been around for that was tweaked this year 2013, Inbee Park would have won the \$1 million. She won six times, including three majors, and was fifth in the season finale at Naples.

> "I was so honored to win the LPGA money title in 2013 and now I have something even bigger to play for," Park said. "Nothing is guaranteed with the new system, so this new race is going to make everyone on tour work a little bit



LPGA Commissioner Mike Whan speaks during a ceremony after officials announced that the Solheim Cup, a tournament pitting golfers from Europe and the U.S. against each other, will be held at the Des Moines Golf and Country Club in 2017, Monday, Sept. 23, 2013, in West Des Moines, Iowa.

#### **Associated Press**

harder because the payoff to earn points, but points is so big."

All tournaments, starting with the Bahamas Classic on Jan. 23-26, will offer the same amount of points (500 to the winner). The five majors will have an additional 25 percent value (625 points). Players will have to make the cut

will only be awarded to the top 40 in events with no cut, and the top 20 for the Lorena Ochoa Invitational, which has a smaller field. Whan said he did not want a "playoff system" similar to the U.S. PGA Tour so the U.S. LPGA would not disrupt its

entire schedule.

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extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 Charter deep sea fishing rates: \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



### Ducks beat Bruins 5-2 for 14th win in 15 games

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Mathieu Perreault scored two goals and Jonas Hiller made 30 saves in his 12th consecutive victory as the Anaheim Ducks beat the Boston Bruins 5-2 Tuesday for their 14th win in 15 games.

Perreault, Corey Perry and Nick Bonino scored power-play goals for the NHL-leading Ducks, who improved to 18-0-2 at home. Andrew Cogliano scored short-handed during the Ducks' three-goal second period. Teemu Selanne added two assists in Anaheim's eighth consecutive win at home, matching its 8-0 streak to open the season.

Daniel Paille and Dougie Hamilton scored for the Bruins, who played without forward Milan Lucic for the first time this season due to an illness.

Tuukka Rask stopped 15 shots, but the Atlantic Division leaders couldn't overcome their specialteams woes in the opener of a three-game California



Nashville Predators forward David Legwand (11) can't put the puck in the net as San Jose Sharks goalie Antti Niemi (31), of Finland, slides across the goal line in the third period of an NHL hockey game Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2014, in Nashville, Tenn. The Predators won 3-2.

**Associated Press** 

road trip.

PENGUINS 5, CANUCKS 4, SO

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Sidney Crosby tied the score with 55 seconds left in regulation and added the only goal in a shootout to rally Pittsburgh

past slumping Vancouver. Crosby and Kris Letang scored 16 seconds apart late in the third period to tie it for Pittsburgh after the Canucks grabbed a 4-2

Evgeni Malkin and Brian Gibbons also scored for the Penguins. Jussi Jokinen added two assists, and Crosby had one of his own. Marc-Andre Fleury made 22 saves for the win.

Chris Higgins, Zack Kassian and Christopher Tanev each had a goal and an assist for Vancouver, which lost its fifth in a row. Jason Garrison also scored and Eddie Lack made 31 saves. Vancouver appeared to be on its way to a victory when Higgins beat Fleury through the legs on a breakaway with 6:53 left in regulation and Kassian batted down a puck off the rush and swatted it past the goalie 17 seconds later.

WILD 2, KINGS 1, SO

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Nino Niederreiter scored the tying goal early in the third period and netted the only goal in a four-round shootout to lead Minnesota over Los Angeles.

The Wild, playing their first game since leading scorer Mikko Koivu broke his ankle Saturday at Washington, have won three straight for the first time since Nov. 1-5. Koivu underwent surgery Monday and is expected to miss at least four weeks. Darcy Kuemper made 17 of his 39 saves during the first period in his third appearance this season and fifth NHL start.

#### Continued from Page 18

Sixers rookie Michael Carter-Williams scored a season-high 33.

KINGS 123, TRAIL BLAZERS 119

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — DeMarcus Cousins had 35 points and 13 rebounds, Rudy Gay scored 32 points and the Kings held off a furious rally to beat the Trail Blazers.

Cousins and Gay provided the spark for a 32-12 run at the end of the third and beginning of the fourth quarters that put Sacramento ahead by 19 points. Gay fouled out with 4:12 remaining, and the Blazers nearly rallied back.

Damian Lillard scored 26 of his 41 points in the final period to pull Portland within two in the final minute. But the Kings made just enough free throws to hold off the Blazers, who have lost four of their last six games.

LaMarcus Aldridge added 24 points and eight rebounds, and Nicolas Batum finished with 11 points, 11 rebounds and five assists while playing with a fractured left middle finger for Portland.

WARRIORS 101, BUCKS 80
MILWAUKEE (AP) — David
Lee had 22 points and 18
rebounds to lead Golden
State to its 10th straight win.
Lee was 10 of 12 from the
field for the Warriors, who
have their longest winning
streak since their NBA-title
season in 1975. Stephen
Curry contributed 15 points
for the Warriors despite
connecting on just 5 of 18
shots. Klay Thompson also
scored 15 points.

The Warriors, playing their sixth game of a seven-city trip, led by just two at the half against the Bucks, who have the NBA's worst record.

Golden State broke open the game with a 23-7 run to start the third quarter, highlighted by a step-back 3-pointer from the corner by Curry.

Ersan Ilyasova had 20 points and Brandon Knight 18 for the Bucks.

SPURS 110, GRIZZLIES 108,



Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) drives to the basket against New Orleans Pelicans' Tyreke Evans (1) during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Miami, Tuesday, Jan 7, 2014. The Heat defeated the Pelicans 107-88.

**Associated Press** 

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — Manu Ginobili scored on a driving layup with 1.8 seconds left in overtime, lifting San Antonio to the road win.

Mike Conley had an opportunity to win the game for Memphis, but his 25-footer fell short.

Tim Duncan led the Spurs with 24 points, while Marco Belinelli added 19 and Kawhi Leonard had 17.
Conley had 30 points for the Grizzlies.

Memphis trailed by 16 with

five minutes left in regulation, and then used a 23-7 run to force overtime. Conley hit a runner at the end of regulation after Ginobili had scored on a layup.

San Antonio played without center Tiago Splitter, who sprained his right shoulder in Saturday's win over the Clippers and is out for three to five weeks.

HEAT 107, PELICANS 88

MIAMI (AP) — LeBron

James scored 32 points

and Dwyane Wade had 22

to power Miami to the win.

It was the 10th 30-point game of the season for James.

The Heat are 9-1 when he scores that many.

Chris Andersen was 7 for 7 from the field and scored 15 points, and Chris Bosh added 12 points and nine rebounds for the Heat, who trailed by 11 points early in the third quarter.

Miami then outscored New Orleans 59-26 over the next 20 minutes, the run ending when James, Wade and Bosh departed for the night with about 3 minutes left.

Anthony Davis led the Pelicans with 22 points and 12 rebounds, most of his numbers coming in the first half. Eric Gordon scored 15 and Tyreke Evans added 13 for New Orleans.

PACERS 86, RAPTORS 79

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Roy Hibbert scored 22 points and Danny Granger matched his season high with 13, helping Indiana to its third consecutive win.

The NBA-leading Pacers held the Raptors to a season low in points.

### Hall of Fame

#### Continued from Page 18

"Obviously, I'm disappointed to come that close," he said in a statement. "I feel for my family, the organization and the fans. Hopefully, next year.''

Mike Piazza was next with 62.2 percent, up from 57.8 last year. Jack Morris was 78 votes short at 61.5 percent in his 15th and final appearance on the writers' ballot, a drop from 67.7 percent. Morris replaces Gil Hodges (63 percent in 1983) as the player with the highest-percentage of the vote not in the Hall.

Jeff Bagwell dropped to 54.3 percent from 59.6, and Tim Raines to 46.1 from 52.2. Controversy over how to evaluate stars tainted by the Steroids Era continued to impact the vote totals of players with stellar statistics. In their second appearances on the ballot, Roger Clemens dropped from 37.6 percent to 35.4, Barry Bonds from 36.2 to 34.7 and Sammy Sosa from 12.5 to 7.2.

Bonds, baseball's career home run leader, is the only seven-time MVP in major league history. Clemens is the lone seven-time Cy Young Award winner.

"As for what they did, I don't think any of us will ever really know," Thomas said.

"But I can just tell you, what I did was real and that's why I've got this smile on my face right now because

got it right."

Mark McGwire, appearing for the eighth time, fell from 16.9 to 11 percent - down from a peak of 25.6 in 2008. Rafael Palmeiro will be dropped from future ballots after falling to 25 votes and 4.4 percent - below the 5 percent threshold necessary to remain eligible.

One voter submitted a blank ballot.

"I can go home and sleep at night and rest," Thomas said, "so I don't have to worry about all the nonsense that the other people are going through, because I know I won't be getting a call in the middle of the night from someone saying, oh, he did this or he did that.''

Deadspin.com announced Miami Herald columnist Dan Le Batard had turned his ballot over to the website, which allowed readers to vote on how it should be cast.

"I hate all the moralizing we do in sports in general, but I especially hate the hypocrisy in this," Le Batard said in remarks posted by Deadspin. "'I always like a little anarchy inside the cathedral we've made of

BBWAA Secretary-Treasurer Jack O'Connell declined comment.

Maddux reached the major leagues in 1986 and Glavine a year later. They become the first primarily starting pitchers to enter the Hall whose careers the writers, they definitely began after Bert Blyleven, 10 players per ballot.

who debuted in 1970.

Eighth on the wins list with a 355-227 record and a 3.16 ERA over 23 seasons, Maddux won four consecutive Cy Young Awards from 1992-95 and a record 18 Gold Gloves with the Chicago Cubs, Atlanta, the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Diego. An eight-time All-Star, he won at least 13 games in 20 straight sea-

Among pitchers with 3,000 innings whose careers began in 1921 or later - after the Dead Ball Era - Maddux's 1.80 walks per nine innings is second only to Robin Roberts' 1.73, according to STATS.

Glavine, a 10-time All-Star and a two-time Cy Young winner, was 305-203 over 22 seasons.

A two-time AL MVP, Thomas hit .301 with 521 homers and 1,704 RBIs in 19 seasons with the Chicago White Sox, Toronto and Oakland. Writers who have been members of the BBWAA for 10 consecutive years at any point were eligible to consider the 36-player ballot.

Next year's vote will be more crowded when Randy Johnson, Pedro Martinez, John Smoltz, Carlos Delgado and Gary Sheffield become eligible, five years after their retirements. The BBWAA last month formed a committee to study whether the organization should ask the Hall to change the limit of

# Sainz wins 4th stage and takes overall Dakar lead

#### CHILECITO, Argentina (AP)

— Carlos Sainz of Spain won Wednesday's fourth stage of the Dakar Rally and moved into first place in the overall standings in the car division.

Sainz finished the stage 6:04 ahead of 11-time champion Stephane Peterhansel of France and 8:58 in front of Nasser Al-Attiyah of Qatar. Sainz leads fellow Spaniard Nani Roma by 2:06 in the overall standings. Peterhansel is 18:10 behind in fifth place.



Buggy driver Carlos Sainz of Spain and co-pilot Timo Gottschalk of Germany race during the fourth stage of the Dakar Rally between the cities of San Juan and Chilecito, Argentina, Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014.

**Associated Press** 

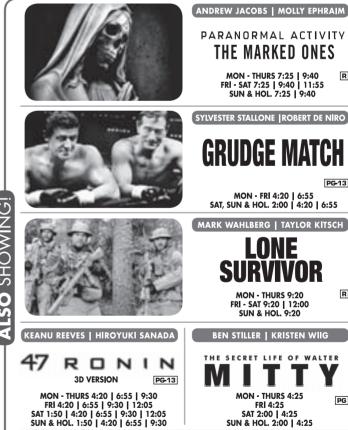


Chicago White Sox slugger Frank Thomas smiles as he responds to a question during a news conference about his selection into the MLB Baseball Hall Of Fame Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014, at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago.

**Associated Press** 







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## What You Eat

By: Dr Carlos Viana

A famous French connoisseur of good food and drink, Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin in 1825 said, "Tell me what you eat and I will tell you what you are". In the 1920s and 30s, the nutritionist Victor Lindlahr, who believed that food controls health, developed the Catabolic Diet. Victor said, "Ninety per cent of the diseases known to man are caused by cheap foodstuffs. You are what you eat." However, most people attribute the phrase "You are what you eat" to Adelle Davis, a leading spokesperson for the organic food movement.

Adelle Davis, was an North American author and a pioneer of nutrition during the mid-20th century. She advocated whole unprocessed foods, criticized food additives, and claimed that dietary supplements and other nutrients play a dominant role in maintaining health, preventing disease, and restoring health after the onset of disease. Interestingly, our Aruban diet 50 years ago was made up of whole unprocessed foods that did not contain food additives. Unfortunately, modern families worldwide today have been seduced by the convenience and apparent low cost of junk food.

Another nutritional hero of mine, Dr. Weston A. Price, a Cleveland dentist, searching for the causes of dental decay and physical degeneration he ob-

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served daily in his dental practice, turned from test tubes and microscopes to study "people with fine teeth". In the 1930's he traveled worldwide. Price found that beautiful, straight teeth, freedom from decay, athletic bodies, and resistance to disease, and fine characters were typical of people still eating their traditional diets. Dr Price took thousands of pictures showing children, smiling to show their healthy teeth. When he examined children of parents who had adopted the "modern" diets of devitalized processed foods, he found a disturbing contrast. Children whose parents ate processed foods had more narrow faces, crowded teeth and dental arches, both which were more susceptible to dental decay, and Dr Price found these children to have a reduced immunity to disease.

The impact of your food choices not only affects your physical body, but chemical imbalances can affect the brain, causing depression, anxiety, and other problems. When wrong food, food additives, chemicals and lifestyle put a strain on organs, the spirit can also be affected. How can you have passion when you are exhausted or sick?

The North American Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that they are seeing people in the States with diabetes living longer,

yet as our modern diets have changed, diabetes has grown to an epidemic. Diabetes and pre-diabetes (insulin resistance) is a costly medical problem. People diagnosed with diabetes have medical expenditures that are about 2.3 times higher than medical expenses for people without diabetes. Diabetes is preventable when doctors are trained how to identify insulin resistance before it becomes Type II diabetes and patients are educated and willing to change.

Food, herb, drug, and chemical intolerance can also have profound impact on your health. Your immune system is a network of organs, glands and tissues that protect your body from foreign substances, such as bacteria, viruses and cancer risk. Besides lowering your immune system, food and intolerance chemical makes weight loss impossible. We always begin our relationship with a patient by recommending a metabolic or blood type diet and supplements to offset modern, devitalized foods.

When patients are ready to do more to improve their health, we offer a scientifically tested, comprehensive food and chemical sensitivity test using a simple blood test or "ALCAT" test. With results from this specialized test, patients eliminate not only chemicals and "unhealthy" foods, but some seemingly "healthy" foods that show "hidden" reactions which hold people back from becoming healthy as possible. We've seen people successfully overcome a

wide variety of conditions such as digestive disorders, migraines, obesity, chronic fatigue, skin disorders and arthritis.

The wrong food choices also have an impact on what should be a natural process, growing older. Traditional Chinese Medicine doctors are looking at their maturing patients to see if they are aging "Gracefully". Gracefully aging individuals still possess an inquisitive mind and are full of flexible energy. Even after working all day, my partner, Phyllis and I look forward to an afternoon swimming or dancing the salsa in the evening.

With the wrong food choices, many people are experiencina accelerated aging that can be identified through medical tests. Older patients often complain of exhaustion, stiffness, and dizziness. Looking at their arms and legs I can see the signs of muscle loss that will quickly develop into bone loss. Aging individuals, who have not yet developed advanced degenerative diseases, can quickly recover their metabolic balance, slowing down and even reversing their aging

Get The Point! Recent studies show that diabetes and its consequences have changed form a disease of our grandparents and parents to young adults and children. Luckily, studies also show that lifestyle changes can prevent or delay the onset of diabetes type II. For people with pre-diabetes, starting with what you

eat and loosing as little as 5%-7% body weight including a minimum of 3 hours of physical activity per week can reduce the rate of onset of type 2 diabetes by 58%. We see these positive clinical results in clinic nearly every day. For individual testing and personal education on how to eat for your best health, call us.

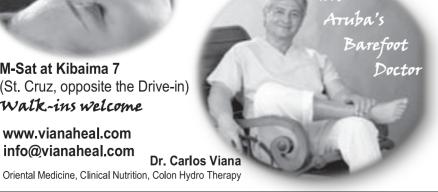
CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures exten-For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER. Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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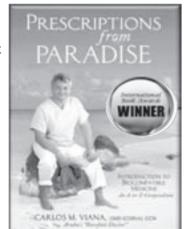






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### Few 'wearables' balance fashion and function

#### PETER SVENSSON **AP Technology Writer**

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Gadget lovers are slipping on fitness bands that track movement and buckling on smartwatches that let them check phone messages.

Some brave souls are even donning Google's geekylooking Glass eyewear.

For the technology industry, this is exciting time, but also a risky one. No one really knows whether the average consumer can be enticed to make gadgets part of their everyday attire.

The question is: Can tech companies create wearables with the right mix of function and fashion?

Wearable computing devices are igniting an explosion of hope and creativity that's engaged both startups and big companies including Samsung, Sony, LG and others. At the International Consumer Electronics Show this week, companies are showing off hundreds of new watches, wristbands and eyeglasses with built-in video screens or cameras.

The industry is encouraged by the attention Google's Glass is getting. The device is worn like a pair of glasses and projects a small video screen into the wearer's field of vision. Companies are also encouraged by the success —albeit on a small scale— of the Pebble and Samsung Galaxy Gear smartwatches.

Intel Corp., the world's largest maker of computer processors, is on the wearable computing bandwagon, too. Its CEO, Brian Krzanich, demonstrated a onesie that can measure a baby's temperature, pulse and breathing rate. It sends a wireless signal to a parent's "smart" coffee cup, which shows a smiley face in lights if the baby is sleeping well and a worried face if the child is too hot or close to waking up. The outfit can also send a signal to a smart bottle warmer, so it can be ready with warm formula when the baby wakes.

"We want to make everything smart," Krzanich said, showing off the brains of



Magellan Echo smart sports watches sit on display at the International Consumer Electronics Show, Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014, in Las Vegas. The watch can sync with mobile devices to make the most out of the user's sports apps.

**Associated Press** 

the onesie —a computer the size of a stamp.

The smart onesie is one example of the many gadgets at the show that are designed to demonstrate what technology can do. What's less clear is whether they tackle real problems, and improve life so much that people will care to buy them.

The wearables industry is haunted by an earlier false start: Bluetooth headsets, which were commonplace a few years ago, fell out of favor. The shift away from phone calls and towards texting was one factor, but many say it simply became uncool to walk around in public with a listening device protruding from one's

It's easier to convince consumers to wear gadgets on their wrists, and that's where most of the industry's energy is focused.

"The wrist is one of the few places where it's socially acceptable and technologically feasible to wear a gadget," says David Ro-Fossil. Rosales has been making smartwatches for years, but only now does he believe they can break into the mainstream. It's not so much a matter of tech-

worked fine in 2006, as one of social acceptance, he says.

Smartwatches are still a small market: the Consumer Electronics Association estimates that just under a million of them will be sold in the U.S. this year, up from 600,000 last year.

"I don't think consumers get the idea of smartwatches," says Russ Crupnick, senior vice president of industry analysis at research firm NPD Group. In a survey, the group found that the feature U.S. consumers most desire in a smartwatch is the ability to make and receive calls — something watches generally don't do. He thinks the image a smartwatch projects of the owner is a more important driver.

"I think this is about jewelry ... I think at least in the near term, it's about what having one of these things says about me and my personal brand," Crupnick says. "It's human nature to brand ourselves."

Fitness bands are also an efsales, the chief technology fective way to brand oneofficer of Meta Watch Ltd., self, and they've seen a big a spin-off of watchmaker surge in interest recently. The CEA says that last year, 13 percent of U.S. consumers said they intend to buy a wearable fitness product in the next 12 months, up from 3 percent the year before. nology — smartwatches But the staying power of

these products is questionable — much of their motion tracking can be done by smartphones, which already contain the motion sensors that let the fitness bands act as advanced pedometers. At CES, some bands are being revealed that do more than phones can; Epson's Pulsense, for instance, measures a wearer's heart rate by shining a light through the skin.

Glucovation, a startup from Carlsbad, California, is among the companies that want to take wearables one step further: into the skin. It's developing a patch with a tiny needle that measures the wearer's blood glucose level and relays it wirelessly to a smartphone. That could be useful not just for diabetics, but for anyone trying to control their eating habits.

The patch, which is at least two years away from being sold, would be worn discretely under clothing. Google Glass is the opposite: it's blatant and in your face, literally. Many people balk at the image of the man-machine integration it conveys, and since it contains a forward-facing camera, the gadget has given rise to privacy concerns. In theory, Glass wearers could be recording or taking pictures of anything they see, unbeknownst to others.

But even if some people balk at wearing gadgets of their own accord others— such as children and workers —may not be able to avoid wearables. New York-based Filip is making colorful, rubbery wristphones for kids. They can track the kids location and can place calls to five preprogrammed numbers. They can also show text messages, like "Time for dinner!" AT&T started selling them in November for \$200. Startup XOEye Technologies is building cameras into safety glasses. They can stream live video for 45 minutes over Wi-Fi before they need a recharge. The wearer can talk to and hear whoever's watching the video. In effect, the glasses provide a way for an expert or supervisor to look over the shoulder of a remote worker to walk them through repairs. Conversely, an expert could wear the glasses and walk the viewer through a pro-

At XOEye's trade show booth, a screen showed high-quality eye-perspective video from an employee at the company's office in Ann Arbor, Michigan, working on an electrical box.

"You've got all these industries where you're wearing safety glasses anyway," says Anthony Blanco, XO-Eye's head of business development. "Basically, this lets them operate more efficiently."

The gadget's battery life is too short for all-day video streaming, but the glasses can be set to snap photos every 30 seconds instead, which extends the battery's limit. That could give employers a way to track workers all day, sort of like an eye-level security camera. Blanco sees the potential for cutting down on worker's compensation fraud.

"Let's say you have a guy who says he injured his back in a fall from a ladder on a Friday," Blanco says.

"You could check the photos and see that no, you got injured in a softball game over the weekend."



### Stocks slip as a sluggish start to 2014 drags on

**KEN SWEET AP Markets Writer** 

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The stock market stumbled Wednesday as investors waited for the government's jobs report later this week and the beginning of quarterly earnings releases from corporate America.

Traders put aside a positive report that showed private employers created 1 percent after five days of

The tough start should be taken in context of last year's exceptional performance, when the S&P 500 surged almost 30 percent. After bidding up companies' stock prices to record levels last year, investors are ready to see if their bets are going to pay off. Big, publicly traded U.S.

day, as well as former Dow member and aluminum company Alcoa. Next week investors will have results from Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase, General Electric and American Express.

"Earnings will determine what's next for the stock market," said Lawrence Creatura, a portfolio manager with Federated InvesThe ADP data sets the stage for Friday's government jobs report. Investors expect the U.S. economy created 190,000 jobs last month and the unemployment rate remained steady at 7 percent.

The Dow lost 68.20 points, or 0.4 percent, to 16,462.74. The losses erased more than half of the 105-point gain the index had on Tuesday.

The S&P 500 fell 0.39 points, or less than 0.1 percent, to 1,837.49 and the Nasdag composite rose 12.43 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,165.61.

S&P Capital IQ's Alec Young said he expects the stock market will "churn" at these levels into next week, once investors have earnings and Friday's jobs report to analyze.

In company news:

Ford rose 16 cents, or 1 percent, to \$15.54 after CEO Alan Mulally said he would not leave to run Microsoft. Mulally was considered a top candidate for the position, having led the turnaround for Ford turning the financial crisis.

Forest Labs jumped \$10.54, or 18 percent, to \$69.30 after the company said it would buy Aptalis, which specializes in treatments for gastrointestinal problems and cystic fibrosis, for \$2.9 billion in cash.

Macy's jumped in after-hours trading after the company said late Wednesday that it would lay off 2,500 workers as it restructures its business. The stock rose \$3.21, or 6 percent, to \$55.05.



Kodak CEO Antonio Perez, right center, rings the opening bell of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014. The stock market stumbled Wednesday as investors waited for the government's jobs report later this week and the beginning of quarterly earnings releases from corporate America. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

more jobs in December than economists had expected. The market had a muted reaction to the minutes from the Federal Reserve's mid-December policy meeting.

Wednesday's declines extend what has been a muddled start to 2014. Both the Dow Jones industrial average and the Standard & Poor's 500 index are down a little less than companies will start reporting their quarterly financial results Thursday.

"The question is whether this strengthening economy is translating into stronger corporate earnings," said Russ Koesterich, global chief investment strategist at the investment firm BlackRock.

Dow member and oil giant Chevron will report after the closing bell Thurstors.

Another theme on investors' agendas is jobs.

A private survey released Wednesday showed U.S. businesses added the most jobs in a year in December, powered by a big gain in construction work. Payroll processor ADP said companies added 238,000 jobs in December, better than the 200,000 economists

### Barnes & Noble promotes Nook head to CEO

NEW YORK (AP) — Book seller Barnes & Noble has promoted the head of its Nook business to chief executive of company.

by, 59, will take the role immediately. The post has been vacant since July when CEO William Lynch left the company.

It comes after the busy holiday season that can account for up to 40 percent of a retailer's sales.

Barnes & Noble will release holiday sales figures on Thursday. Huseby will take the helm of the New York company as it struggles to The struggling retailer said turn around results in the Wednesday Michael Huse- face of tough competition and a book market that is shifting to digital books. The company is also dealing with an accounting probe by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In its most recent fiscal second quarter ended Oct. 26, the company returned

to a profit, helped by cost cuts, but revenue fell 8 percent declining across all segments.

The SEC told the bookseller Oct. 16 that it was investiaating the company's restatement of earnings announced in July as well as an employee allegation that it improperly allocated some information-technology expenses between its Nook and retail segments. Barnes & Noble Inc. began reporting its Nook business

sales separately from its retail business in late 2012 as it evaluated ways to become more profitable.

Huseby joined Barnes & Noble as CFO in 2012 and was promoted to president of the company and CEO of Nook Media in 2013. Before joining Barnes & Noble he was CFO of cable company Cablevision Systems Corp. Barnes & Noble shares rose 6 cents to \$14.81 in morning trading.

years.

### **Panel leader** promises to weaken new Volcker rule

**FLOYD NORRIS** © 2014 New York Times

When Zions Bank announced last month that it expected to take a big loss because of the Volcker Rule, it set off alarms all over Washington. Regulators scrambled to say they were considering changing the rule, but that was evidently not enough for

some legislators. Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Texas, chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, is expected to propose a bill that could open up a huge loophole in the rule. The proposed change could allow banks to create and own securities with many types of investments that are barred under the Volcker Rule, which is intended to prohibit speculative trading by banks while letting them both make markets for customers and hedge other investments. Jeff Emerson, an aide to Hensarling, said Tuesday that the chairman expected to propose the bill soon. A copy of it was provided by another congressional aide, who declined to be identified. It was that aide who raised the possibility of widespread abuse if the legislation were enacted. Zions, based in Salt Lake City, said that it expected to post the loss because it owned a large number of collateralized-debt obligations that contained trust-preferred securities, known as TruPS, issued by other banks. The bank said it would have to post the loss, which it estimated at \$387 million before taxes, because it would no longer be able to use an accounting rule that allowed it to keep losses on those securities off its earnings statement, although they were disclosed in footnotes. That accounting treatment depended on the bank being able to say it expected to retain the securities until they matured, something it would not be able to do if the Volcker Rule would require the sale of the securities, even if the sales could be delayed for several



#### Monsanto 1Q profit climbs on biotech beans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Monsanto reported betterthan-expected first quarter earnings Wednesday on higher sales of the company's insect-repelling and herbicide-resistant bean seeds in Latin America. Despite an 8.6 percent increase in profit the company left its full-year fiscal quidance unchanged, sending shares slightly lower in premarket trading.

The company reiterated previous expectations of earnings between \$5 and \$5.20 per share for fiscal 2014. Analysts polled by FactSet expected earnings of \$5.25 for the year. Its shares slipped 39 cents to \$112.85 in premarket trading.The St. Louis-based company said it earned \$368 million, or 69 cents per share in the three months ended Nov. 30. That compares to earnings of \$339 million, or 63 cents per share, in last year's quarter. Revenue climbed 7 percent to \$3.1 billion, driven by sales of its Intacta soybean seeds to farmers in Argentina and Brazil. The biotech engineered soybean, which is the company's first product designed for a non-U.S. market, repels caterpillars and withstands Monsanto's herbicide Roundup. Soybean sales grew 16 percent to \$267 million for the quarter. The company's performance beat the average estimate of analysts polled by FactSet, who expected earnings of 64 cents per share on sales of \$3.069 billion in revenue for the quarter.

which has Monsanto, dominated the bioengineered-seed business for more than a decade, expects earnings growth in the "mid-to-high-teens" for fiscal 2014, based largely on international seed sales in Latin America, Asia and other emerging markets.

The company's biotech seeds have genetically engineered traits that the company says benefit farmers enough that they come out ahead, despite the seeds' higher cost.

### Fed reduced bond buys after seeing big job gains

**MARTIN CRUTSINGER AP Economics Writer** WASHINGTON (AP) — The

Federal Reserve agreed last month to modestly reduce its bond purchases because of improvements in the U.S. job market that many Fed members felt would be sustained.

Many participants called the job gains "meaningful," according to the minutes. Still, minutes, or written records, of the Dec. 18-19 meeting released Wednesday showed that some participants worried that investors might misread the move as a step toward raising the Fed's key short-term interest rate.

In response, the Fed said it plans to keep its short-term rate low "well past" the time the unemployment

rate dropped below 6.5 percent, as long as inflation stayed low.

Some members wanted to lower that unemployment threshold to 6 percent. But the majority opposed doing so. They favored assessing a range of measures of the job market — not just the unemployment rate — in making any policy changes.

The economy has added an average of 200,000 jobs a month from August through November. And the unemployment rate has reached a five-year low of 7 percent.

On Friday, the government will release its employment report for December. A private report Wednesday raised expectations for Friday's government report. Payroll provider ADP said businesses added 238,000 jobs in December, up slightly from 229,000 in the previous month.

Last month the Fed announced that it would reduce its monthly bond purchases from \$85 billion to \$75 billion starting this month. And it said it expected to further reduce the bond purchases in "measured steps" at upcoming meetings, if the economy and the job market continue improving.

The bond purchases are intended to keep long-term rates low, and encourage more borrowing and spending.

Many economists believe the Fed could reduce the bond purchases by an additional \$10 billion at each

of the Fed's upcoming meetings, if the economy continues to add a healthy number of jobs. At that pace, the Fed would end its program of new purchases by the end of the year.

The minutes showed Fed officials were split on the issue of trimming bond purchases.

Some favored a larger initial cut and future reductions that would "bring the program to a close relatively quickly."

Other officials disagreed. The minutes said that some questioned whether an initial move to slow the bond buys was warranted in December, given that unemployment remained elevated and inflation was running well below the Fed's 2 percent target.

### Mulally puts the focus back on Ford's cars, trucks

#### **DEE-ANN DURBIN TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writers**

DEARBORN, Michigan (AP) All eyes will be on Ford's

new vehicles — not its CEO — at the Detroit auto show next week.

CEO Alan Mulally finally put to rest rumors that he will leave Ford to run Microsoft. Mulally said this week he'll stay at the Dearbornbased automaker through at least the end of this year. "I would like to end the Microsoft speculation because I have no other plans to do anything other than serve Ford," Mulally told The Associated Press in an interview.

With that, Mulally ended months of speculation that had already clouded the debut of the new Mustang last month and threatened to overshadow next week's widely expected unveiling of a new F-150, plus the launch of 23 new vehicles this year.

Mulally wouldn't say whether he had talked to Microsoft about the CEO job, but said the speculation had been a distraction for Ford.

"You don't have to worry about me leaving," Mulally said.

Mulally, who is credited with returning Ford Motor Co. to profitability and ending the toxic infighting in its ranks, will stick with his plan to stay at Ford through at least the end of the short list of candidates to replace Microsoft Corp. CEO Steve Ballmer.

Microsoft announced in August that Ballmer plans to step down as CEO.

Daniel Ives, an analyst at

"Out of respect for the process and the potential candidates, we don't comment on individual names," a Microsoft spokesman told the AP. Ford shares rose 21 cents to



Alan Mulally, president and CEO of Ford Motor Company speaks during a news conference in Hong Kong. Mulally said this week he will not leave the automaker for Microsoft and will stay at Ford at least through 2014.

(AP Photo/Vincent Yu)

2014. Ford announced that FBR Capital Markets, said \$15.59 in after-hours tradplan in November 2012. At the same time it promoted Mark Fields — Mulally's likely successor — to chief operating officer.

Over the last few months, there have been numerous reports that Mulally was on

in an email that Mulally's decision was a negative for Microsoft because he was the front-runner for the CEO job. Microsoft wouldn't say Tuesday if Mulally's announcement came as a surprise.

ing. Microsoft shares fell 47 cents to \$36.94.

Mulally's withdrawal from Microsoft's CEO derby shrinks the pool of candidates who have been touted as Ballmer's potential successor.

### nuba 100)/4\74

#### **Mutts**

### THIS IS MY "I'M FREEZING!" FACE...

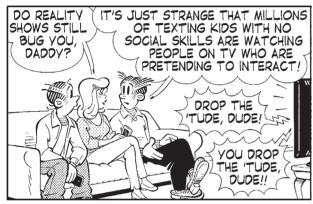




#### 6 Chix



#### **Blondie**





**Mother Goose & Grimm** 



#### **Baby Blues**







**Zits** 







#### Conceptis Sudoku

			5 9		8			
			9		7			
9		8				6		3
9	8						7	2
				4				
7	2						1	9
1		2				5		7
			2		3			
			2		1			

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

er	6	4	9	7	8	2	5	1	3
answ	8	2	5	4	3	1	7	9	6
zzle	1	7	3	5	6	9	2	8	4
nd s	4	3	8	1	9	5	6	2	7
rday	2	9	6	3	7	8	1	4	5
Yesterday's puzzle answer	7	5	1	6	2	4	9	3	8
	3	1	4	2	5	6	8	7	9
	5	8	2	9	4	7	3	6	1
	9	6	7	8	1	3	4	5	2

#### **ACROSS**

- Refer to 5 Take \_\_; disassemble 10 Former Attorney General Janet
- 14 Cut of pork 15 Not as coarse 16 Enthusiastic 17 Floored 18 Kolkata,
- 19 Not at all spicy 20 Living rooms 22 Takes tiny bites 24 Female sheep 25 Of the kidneys 26 Kid around with
- 29 Failure 30 Instruct 34 Split \_\_; hair problem
- 35 Source of light 36 Part of the eye 37 Hubbub 38 Actor Charles 40 Smack-\_\_
- exactly 41 Ethical principles 43 "\_\_\_, drink and be merry.. 44 Lucie's dad
- 45 Stockholm resident 46 Use a lever 47 Adjust an alarm 48 Flower holders
- 50 Nourished 51 Religious or tribal leaders 54 Small stream 58 Pot covers
- 59 "A rose by any Apple's center 62 Encourage 63 Uses a Kindle
- fancy breakfast 65 Walter or Rex 66 Lovers' meeting 67 Coating for a chimney sweep

64 \_\_ Benedict;

### DOWN

Applaud 2 Dubuque, 3 Bleachers level

- Wednesday's Puzzle Solved 4 Perpetual 5 In flames 6 Bowling targets

7 Most common

conjunction

8 \_\_ in; brought

10 AMC auto

11 Malicious

12 African river

21 Run up a tab

23 \_\_ Rouge, LA

26 Reds & Browns

as to a college

South America

25 Narrow rugs

28 Venerate

29 Twosome

31 Mountains in

32 Discontinue

33 Nun's wear

35 Yrbk. section

36 Portable bed

38 Like a grim

outlook

42 Counseled

39 Utter

13 Likelihood

under control 9 Choo-choo

CREDO ROSE REASONABLE ODOR ADDER ALSO

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- 44 Figures out 46 Bother
- 47 Gun the engine 49 Lacking sufficient funds
- beginning 51 Disparaging remark
- 52 Bring on board 53 Margin

54 Communists

60 Barn dinner

55 Company 50 At \_\_; in the symbol 56 As a result 57 Examination



#### Dump truck full of dirty diapers trip radioactive alarms

VIENNA (AP) — Austrian hazmat specialists called in after Geiger counters showed alarmingly high readings for a dump truck arriving at an incinerator have found the problem radioactive adult diapers. After unloading the truck, firefighters from the hazardous materials unit of the city of Linz found nearly two dozen diapers from a hospital that had become contaminated with radioactive iodine. The substance is swallowed during some medical and diagnostic procedures.

While radiation levels were substantially above normal, unit leader Dieter Jonas says no one was in danger during Tuesday's incident.

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### RED/WEEK Resales

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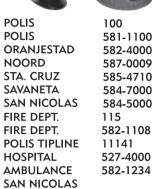
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Foundation Amor

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties
Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba Tel: 587-0002



### Long shots: Galaxies from 13.2 billion years ago

#### **SETH BORENSTEIN AP Science Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Hubble Space Telescope has peered back to a chaotic time 13. 2 billion years ago when never-beforeseen galaxies were tiny, bright blue and full of stars bursting to life all over the place.

Thanks to some complex physics tricks, NASA's aging telescope is just starting to see the universe at its infancy in living color and detail.

Images released by NASA on Tuesday show galaxies that are 20 times fainter than those pictured before. They are from a new campaign to have the 23-year-old Hubble gaze much earlier and farther away than it was designed

"I like to call it cosmic dawn," Hubble astronomer Jennifer Lotz said at the American Astronomical Society convention in Washington. "It's when the lights are coming on."

It was a time when star formation was ramping up, and it was far more hectic than now.

"Imagine if you went back 500 million years after the Big Bang and looked around in the sky," astronomer Garth Illingworth of the University of California Santa Cruz said.

"Galaxies are closer. They're smaller. They're bright blue and they're everywhere...They are probably blobby, small, nothing like our Milky Way."

There were probably no metals at this time, no Earths, said Illingworth, who was on the scientific team using Hubble.

"Things look clumpy and kind of weird," Lotz said. Most of the galaxies then were close to 1,000 times

This undated image made available by the European Space Agency and NASA on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2014 shows galaxies in the Abell 2744 cluster, and blue galaxies behind it, distorted and amplified by gravitational lensing. **Associated Press** 

smaller than our Milky Way, but astronomers said they were surprised to discover

axies sparkling out there. These first pictures showed nearly 3,000 galaxies. Astronomers are still trying to a few brighter, bigger gal-

> which are more recent. Because light travels nearly 6 trillion miles (9.6 trillion kilometers)a year, as telescopes look farther from Earth they see earlier into the past.

> While Hubble and other telescopes using different

light wavelengths have seen this far back, this is the first complete set of photos in the visible light spectrum figure out which of those that the human eye sees. galaxies are ancient and To do this,

> Hubble is using one of Albert Einstein's concepts that massive clusters of galaxies have such super gravity that they magnify and stretch light, Lotz said. By focusing on clusters, astronomers use them as natural binoculars to see

what's behind them.

The release of the images is significant and important, said Christopher Conselice, a professor at the University of Nottingham in England. Conselice was not part of the Hubble team.

"It'll tell us about how the universe is forming and evolving," Conselice said after the astronomers' presentation. "I think they understated it. It could be a fundamental thing."





### Timberlake, Thicke have top-selling album, song



Robin Thicke performs in concert during the 2013 Virgin Mobile FreeFest at Merriweather Post Pavilion on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013, in Columbia, Md.

#### **Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — JUStin Timberlake and Robin Thicke owned 2013 in music.

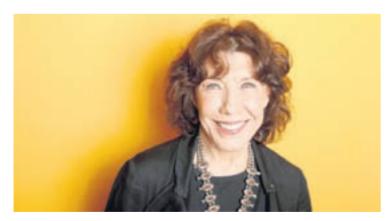
perience" was the top-selling album with 2.4 million units sold. Thicke's ubiquitous "Blurred Lines" was the best-selling song with 6.4 million tracks sold.

Albums sales were down. Only 289.4 million albums were sold in 2013, compared with 316 million a year before. Single tracks on the singles list.

also saw a decrease, by 6 percent. Streaming, however, was up 32 percent with 118.1 million streams. Nielsen Entertainment an- The sales figures include nounced late Tuesday that data from YouTube, Spotify Timberlake's "The 20/20 Ex- and other digital outlets. Baauer's "Harlem Shake" topped the year with 489,674,000 streams.

> New releases from Eminem and Luke Bryan rounded out the top three albums. Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' "Thrift Shop" and Imagine Dragons' "Radioactive" placed second and third

# Lily Tomlin ties



In this Friday, March 15, 2013 photo, actress Lily Tomlin poses for a portrait at the Four Seasons Hotel, in Los Angeles.

**Associated Press** 

together, Lily Tomlin's longtime partner and collaborator is now her wife.

Tomlin's publicist Jennifer Allen told People Magazine and other media outlets Tuesday that the 74-yearold actress and comedian married 78-year-old Jane

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After Wagner in a private New more than four decades Year's Eve ceremony in Los Angeles. Tomlin gained fame through the 1960s sketch show "Laugh-In," went on to star in movies like "9 to 5" and "All of Me" and more recently was a regular on the TV shows "Murphy Brown and "The West Wing."

### Cate Blanchett and Bolshoi to star in NYC festival

**MARK KENNEDY AP Drama Writer** 

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Cate Blanchett, a Kabuki theater company from Japan and the full force of the mighty Bolshoi's ballet, opera, chorus and orchestra companies will be the highlights of this summer's Lincoln Center Festival.

The festival announced Wednesday that its works will include the Bolshoi Ballet's "Swan Lake," ''Don Quixote" and "Spartacus" and the Bolshoi Opera, Orchestra and Chorus performing Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's "The Tsar's Bride." The Bolshoi's ballet danc-

ers will include Svetlana Zakharova, David Hallberg, Maria Alexandrova, Ekaterina Shipulina, Vladislav Lantratov, Olga Smirnova and Ekaterina Krysanova. The Bolshoi's opera singers will include Anna Aglatova, Dinara Alieva, Svetlana Shilova, Elena Manistina, Vyacheslav Pochapsky and Stanislav Trofimo.

Blanchett and Isabelle Huppert also will star the U.S. premiere of Jean Genet's play "The Maids," produced by the Sydney



In this Feb. 14, 2012 file photo, actress Cate Blanchett attends the unveiling of "The Ever Changing Face of Beauty" video installation created by fashion photographer Solve Sundsbo at the Park Avenue Armory in New York.

**Associated Press** 

Theatre Company. Blanchett earned raves in 2012 at the festival in the company's production of "Uncle Vanya."The Brussels-based danced company Rosas, founded by dancer-choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker will perform four works, and the Houston Grand Opera will stage Mieczyslaw Weinberg's "The Passenger."

The Japanese Kabuki the-

ater company Heisei Nakamura-za will offer the classic revenae tale "Kaidan Chibusa No Enoki" or "The Ghost Tale of the Wet Nurse Tree."

**Artists** and ensembles from 11 countries will be represented at the festival, which runs from July 7 through Aug. 16. The shows will be held in six venues on and off the Lincoln Center

### knot with partner Show inspired by Tupac Shakur songs heads to B'way

**AP Drama Writer** 

NEW YORK (AP) — A musical inspired by Tupac Shakur songs is going to bring gangsta rap to Broadway.

Producers said Wednesday that "Holler If Ya Hear Me" will open at the Palace Theatre in June under the direction of Kenny Leon, who helmed the Broadway hits "Fences" and "The Mountaintop." The new musical sets Shakur's music to an original story. Rapper and actor Shakur, who had multimillion-seller albums like "2Pacalypse Now" and "All Eyez on Me," was known for his raw lyrics that drew on the rage of a coarse urban existence. No casting was

announced.

The musical has a story by Todd Kreidler, who was a dramaturg for "Radio Golf"

and "Gem of the Ocean," and choreography by Tony Award-winner Wayne Cilento of "Wicked."



This 1993 file photo originally provided by Columbia Pictures shows rap musician Tupac Shakur is shown in a scene from, "Poetic Justice."

**Associated Press** 



### 'Lone Survivor' a brutal tribute to Navy SEALs

**JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer** 

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Marcus Luttrell, the former Navy SEAL whose deadly mission in Afghanistan has been turned into the film "Lone Survivor," strides into a hotel room for an interview, trailed by his service dog, Mr. Rigby.

The tall, hulking, goateed Navy Cross recipient greets a journalist with a rockhard grip, and nods to director Peter Berg and star Mark Wahlberg, who plays him in the film. This is clearly not what he wants to be doing. Based on Luttrell's best-selling 2007 memoir, "Lone Survivor" is about a 2005 four-man operation in northeastern Afghanistan's Kunar province that fell apart when a trio of goat herders stumbled upon the staked-out SEALs.

After releasing the civilians and aborting the mission, the SEALs were quickly ambushed by the Taliban in a firefight that tumbled down a rocky gulch, killed Luttrell's three fellow SEALs, left Luttrell badly injured and, in an attempted rescue, killed 16 more men.

"Lone Survivor," which opens like a recruitment video with documentary footage of intense SEAL training, is the latest in a series of films that pays tribute to the Navy's special forces: In messy, uncertain



This Dec. 5, 2013 photo shows director Peter Berg, from left, actor Mark Wahlberg and former Navy SEAL Marcus Luttrell in New York. **Associated Press** 

wars, they're elite practitioners of precision. In the era of the superhero film, the Navy SEALs have inspired filmmakers as the genuine article.

Luttrell would rather not talk about any of it. He went along with "Lone Survivor" and wrote the book at the urging of his superiors. Compared to the actual events, the movie is no traumatic experience for Luttrell.

"I went through it in real life, so a movie about it isn't going to affect me in dred moms and dads of

any way," says the 38-yearold Texan. Hollywood and the American military are worlds apart. But "Lone Survivor" is a uniquely close collaboration, one in which Berg and Wahlberg (both producers) worked under significant pressure from the families of those who died and active-duty SEALs to faithfully render the soldiers' lives, in battle and in brotherhood.

"I was at the screening when there were a hundead soldiers," says Berg. "And I was at a screening where there were 500 active members of special operations, including Admiral (William) McRaven. And those are different. Because when those lights come up, those people are going to look you in the eye." Over the years, SEALs have been played by the likes of Bruce Willis, Steven Seagal and Demi Moore, and been a mainstay in video games ("Call of Duty," "Metal Gear Solid"). But the movies, often in close consultation with the military, have come a long way since 1990's "Navy SEALs," with Charlie Sheen. 2012's "Act of Valor" was acted out by active-duty SEALs and used live-ammo sequences to portray a fictional covert mission. Kathryn Bigelow's "Zero Dark Thirty" dramatized the most famous SEAL mission, the raid in Abbottabad that killed Osama bin Laden. The recent docudrama "Captain Phillips" recreated the rescue of the kidnapped mariner by SEAL snipers, with Tom Hanks' most-moving scene improvised with a real-life Naval officer.

Such productions, though, have given rise to questions of accuracy and charges of propaganda.

U.S. senators, including Dianne Feinstein and John McCain, claimed that too much information was shared with the filmmakers of "Zero Dark Thirty," and many criticized the film for suggesting torture aided the hunt for bin Laden. "Captain Phillips" showed only a handful of the 19 shots that were fired on the three Somali pirates, and didn't mention the \$30,000 that went missing in the aftermath. Retired Army lieutenant general James B. Vaught argued that "Act of Valor" revealed too much about tactics: "Get the hell out of the media!" he implored. But the military sees in the movies a chance to shape its image and insure some degree of authenticity in depictions of its service men and women. "Lone Survivor" has largely drawn praise as a brutal ode to Navy SEALs and a faithful depiction of the moral confusion of combat. "For films like 'Black Hawk Down' and 'Lone Survivor,' the commonality is the notion that this is an important opportunity to set the record straight or at least to portray things as they believe they happened," says Philip Strub, head of the Defense Department's Film and Television Liaison Office. It can make for a thorny mix of fictionalization, artist license and classification issues. Berg consulted frequently with military liaisons and the Navy Office of Information while writing the script.

"I read the after-action reports," says Berg. "I looked at the autopsies. I went to Iraq. I met all these guys. We just followed the blue print that Latrell laid out in his book. We never set out to do something non-Hollywood or Hollywood. We just literally told the story." Says Wahlberg: "Everybody fell in line with what the goals were, what the agenda was and how high the standard was set by not only the SEAL team guys but their families.

## Motion picture academy to honor film lab employees

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The motion picture academy is honoring employees of film laboratories with an honorary Oscar, academy officials said.

The move by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences comes at a time when the digital medium is overtaking film. It marks the first time the organization is collectively recognizing a group of individuals with an Academy Award of Merit. The motion picture academy said Wednesday that this year's other Scientific and Technical Awards re-



In this Feb. 25, 2012 file photo, a Oscar statue is seen on the red carpet before the 84th Academy Awards in Los Angeles. **Associated Press** 

cipients will include visual ter W. Anderson and distrieffects supervisor and di- bution executive Charles rector of photography Pe- "Tad" Marburg.

### FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES A31 THURSDAY 9 JANUARY 2014

### Football's Devastating Harvest



FRANK BRUNI © 2014 New York Times

For a while he didn't move. It wasn't clear that he could. He was stretched out on his stomach, a few concerned people bending over him, a few others kneeling beside him, as if in prayer, which they may have been. It would have been an apt response.

Seconds ticked by. Still no movement. Just a television replay of what had gone wrong: his head apparently whipping into another player's leg as the two of them tumbled - no, hurtled - out of bounds, where he remained, a few feet beyond the sideline.

Would he get up? Or would the cart come out? Those of us who'd watched many a previous football game were all too familiar with that dread ritual, when a player unable to walk off the field is instead carried off, on a backboard and a tiny vehicle that might as well be a hearse, in terms of the chill it sends through you.

This game, a playoff match on Saturday between the Kansas City Chiefs and the Indianapolis Colts, was turning into one with too many chills. This player, a star cornerback for the Chiefs named Brandon Flowers, wasn't its first casualty.

"They've already lost Jamaal Charles to a concussion," said an announcer, referring to the team's star running back, who'd been forced to leave after only the sixth play of the first half. It was now early in the second half, and the announcer was filling time while Flowers lay motionless. He did so by going through the body count, mentioning yet another Chiefs standout, wide receiver Donnie Avery, who'd been knocked out of the game. Avery, like Charles, had suffered a concussion.

At last Flowers sat up. Then he stood, but only to be escorted to the locker room for a medical evaluation. It turned out that he, too, had a concussion, and was done for the day. The announcer remarked that there'd been a "big-time turnaround in the feel of this game," in which the Chiefs' lead was collapsing and the aggregate injuries were something of "a momentum-buster." What clumsy but telling words. Three men stagger off, their elimination underscoring

the plague of serious injuries in this violent sport, and the main takeaway is about momentum? That's the National Football League for you. Broken bodies matter mostly in terms of a broken rhythm.

The Chiefs-Colts contest, on the first weekend of the post-season playoffs, was one of the most thrilling, spectacular football games I've ever seen. Somehow, some way, with bursts of luck and feats of extraordinary athleticism, the Colts rallied from a 28-point deficit and staged a comeback that will go into the history books, winning 45-44.

But it was also one of the most discomfiting football games I've ever seen, a blunt reminder of how much pain we fans endorse in the service of our pleasure. All in all five players for the Chiefs went down, exiting before the end of the fourth quarter, and the team's defeat was inextricable from its physical devastation. In the NFL, the spoils often go to the squad that needs the fewest X-rays, crutches, sutures and surgeries.

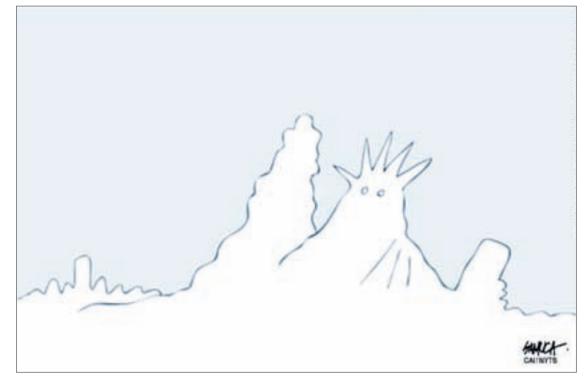
It has been a sickening season that way. At least eight of the league's 32 teams were without their first-string quarterbacks before October was over. Some of the quarterbacks who went the distance seemed to do so mainly because their teams' entire architecture had been designed around their protection. The Denver Broncos, a favorite to go to the Super Bowl, did many things right, but none righter than treating Peyton Manning as if he were a Fabergé egg.

So many other players cracked. Before mid-December, 41 had fallen to seasonending knee injuries, in contrast to just 32 the previous year and 25 the year before that, as Ben Volin reported in The Boston Globe.

It's difficult to say definitively whether significant injuries overall are on the rise, and it doesn't matter. They're too prevalent, period. And the NFL needs to go far beyond its efforts thus far to assess and reconsider anything that might be affecting player safety: what kind of equipment, head to toe, they wear; the give of the turf on which they play; the way they train in the offseason. Maybe there should be weight limits. There should certainly be more rest between games and there should probably be fewer of them, though there's been talk of the league's moving in the opposite direction. The status quo won't do. It's

The status quo won't do. It's untenable. It's arguably unconscionable. On Saturday, the sight of a crumpled Chief with distraught teammates hovering over him became so common that the announcer remarked, in a voice too glib, on the "injury bug" that was "contagious for Kansas City at the wrong time now."

There's never a right time. And it's no little bug.



### Bill De Blasio's Very Long Odds



#### ROSS DOUTHAT © 2014 New York Times

This much can be said for Bill de Blasio's inauguration, which featured a concentration of left-wing agitprop unseen since the last time Pete Seeger occupied a stage alone: If the waning years of Barack Obama's presidency are going to be defined by a liberal crusade against income inequality, there's no more fitting place to kick it off than New York City.

It's fitting because a glance at New York's ever-richer 1 percent, its priced-out middle class and its majestic skyscrapers soaring above pockets of squalor makes it easy enough to understand left-wing populism's appeal.

But it's fitting, as well, because New York also illustrates the tensions that make the war on inequality hard to wage and suggests reasons to question whether it's actually worth fighting in the first place.

Those tensions start with the fact that despite a run of non-Democratic mayors, the five boroughs have hardly been a laboratory for Social Darwinists in the last two decades. Instead, de Blasio's "tale of two cities," one ever-richer and one struggling to keep up, has been unspooling in a liberal metropolis in a liberal state surrounded by a mostly liberal region, where many obvious anti-inequality policy levers are already being pulled.

This doesn't mean inequality is immune to policy responses, especially when you leap to the national level - a leap, of course, that liberal populists want to see de Blasio's message make.

But the new mayor's political coalition also provides a clue as to why a comprehensive policy response may never actually be tried. In his primary upset, de Blasio enjoyed strong backing from the city's college-educated upper middle class. He even did slightly better among voters making between \$100,000 and \$200,000 than he did among the poor.

In a way, this shows the potential breadth of populism's appeal. But while upper-middle-class voters are happy to support higher taxes on 1 percenters - not least because they're tired of trying to compete with them for schools and real estate - they don't necessarily want a program that would require their own taxes to rise substantially.

And this is a problem for the populist left, because to build the kind of welfare state - European, Scandinavian - that seems to really level incomes, you need lots of tax dollars from the non-rich. Yet the current Democratic coalition has been built on a promise to never raise taxes on anyone making under \$250,000 ... or maybe \$400,000 ... or possibly \$500,000, the threshold de Blasio chose.

That promise has made it safe for many well-off voters, in New York and elsewhere, to cast votes for liberal populism. But it has also made it impossible for the populist war on inequality to ever actually be won.

But should we even want that war to be fought? Here, too, New York's experience raises difficult questions for egalitarians. Of all the arguments for reducing inequality, the most potent is the claim that a more unequal society is one with fewer opportunities to rise, and that a hardening of class lines in America is intimately connected to growing fortunes at the top.

This makes some intuitive sense, and there is international data - dubbed "the Great Gatsby curve" by the economist Alan Krueger - suggesting a link between inequality and immobility. But within the United States,

that link turns out to be much less readily apparent.

Using data from an ambitious research project on social mobility, the Manhattan Institute's Scott Winship and the Heritage Foundation's Donald Schneider recently tried to recreate the "Gatsby curve" for U.S. job markets. Instead, they found little-to-no correlation between inequality and mobility across different regions of the country. And New York illustrates their point, because the city's extreme income inequality hasn't led to extreme immobility. In fact, compared with nationwide trends, New Yorkers born into poverty have an above-average chance of rising into the middle class. (And New Yorkers born into affluence have an above-average chance of dropping to the bottom.)

Now it's true that whatever the link between mobility and equality, there are potential policy moves - an expansion of housing stock, for instance, to make expensive cities more affordable - that would probably address both issues at once.

De Blasio's signature proposal, universal pre-K, is a more ambiguous case. Most research indicates that early childhood education doesn't have the benefits to children's prospects that its advocates suggest. But it's possible the program could increase the mobility of parents, by lowering costs and stress for two-earner and single-parent households.

But there's also a pessimistic scenario, in which the growing cost of New York's existing welfare state means that de Blasio's crusade ultimately just devolves into interest-group featherbedding, in which the rich are squeezed to benefit a well-compensated public sector and preserve bureaucracies that ought to be reformed.

And that outcome - a populism that marginally inconveniences the richest without meaningfully changing life for anyone else - would be less a model for the post-Obama Democrats than a cautionary tale.



### Asian Factories Find Sense, Savings In Environmental Certification

MIKE IVES
© 2014 New York Times
HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam - When Intel went about setting up its chip factory in Vietnam, it found an oddity: Local laws did not govern every aspect of

the building.

The government had no comprehensive standards, for instance, on refrigerant chemicals, which, in the United States, are typically regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency. In fact, local officials asked Intel whether the company had any ideas on the subject that might be useful to other manufacturers operating in the country.

Yet, today, Intel's \$1 billion plant - about 10 miles from downtown Ho Chi Minh City - embraces environmental and sustainability measures far beyond those required by Vietnam's laws. Opened in 2010, the complex has the country's largest operating array of solar panels.

Company officers say a new water-reclamation system could soon help the plant reduce water consumption as much as 68 percent. The plant is also vying for certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Intel didn't have to go to

these lengths, but the motivation for these measures is simple, said the complex's general manager, Sherry Boger: "It turns out, what's good for the environment is also good for business." Western multinationals - and in some cases, their Asian suppliers - have, in

Asian suppliers - have, in the last five years, started to build more environmentally sound factories in developing countries, green-building experts say. However, the U.S. Green Building Council, a leading global certifier, reports that only about 300 manufacturing facilities in Asia are certified or waiting for certification through its rating tool, called Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

Efficiency consultants in Asia say it is difficult to estimate how much energy or money an average multinational saves by having a green-certified factory building. But the certification trend is potentially significant in Asia because so many consumer and industrial goods are manufactured in the region, offering enormous potential for energy savings if the practice becomes widespread, experts say. A trickle of factory data suggests the energy savings at certified and 53 percent less water, according to Melissa Merryweather, the lead sustainability consultant for the project. The factory is owned by Taekwang Vina, a joint venture of the South Korean manufacturer Taekwang and a Vietnamese partner. Stephanie Clark, a spokeswoman for the American consumer products giant Colgate-Palmolive, provided statistics indi-

ties had included eight factories among the 742 buildings certified by the end of 2012. Most of the others were residential or commercial, he said; other factories in the pipeline.

A market for industrial-efficiency upgrades is also growing in India, where many factory owners worry about power outages, said Prashant Kapoor, principal industry specialist for green

Electric, a French energy consulting firm, said he fielded four or five times as many requests for efficiency upgrades at factories as he did five years ago. Upgrading typically includes energy audits and installation of energy monitoring software, as well as replacing electric motors, which often consume a vast proportion of a factory's power supply.



A landscaper works at Intel's chip factory, which was built with environmental and sustainability measures far beyond those required by Vietnam's laws, in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, in December, 2013. Some Western multinationals like Intel have started to build more environmentally sound factories in developing countries in order to save money or to anticipate tighter government regulation.

facilities are significant.

Intel, for example, has reduced its global energy bill by \$111 million since 2008 as a result of \$59 million worth of sustainability investments in 1,500 projects worldwide, Boger said. The projects have offset carbon dioxide emissions equivalent to the amount produced by 126,000 American households per year, she added, and Intel's \$1.1 million solar array at the Vietnam facility offsets each day an amount of carbon dioxide equivalent to that emitted by about 500 of Vietnam's motorbikes.

In 2011, an efficiency survey found that compared with a typical factory, a LEED-certified shoe factory in southern Vietnam that produces exclusively for Nike uses 18 percent less electricity and fuel

cating that the company's seven LEED-certified factories worldwide had reduced construction waste and lowered water and energy use. Clark added that four more such factories were under construction, and the company's website shows that its 11 LEED projects worldwide - five of them in Asia - represent about a third of the company's manufacturing sites.

Malaysia's government has certified about 750,000 square feet of factory space since 2009, according to the Malaysia Green Building Confederation, representing about 1 percent of its total building certifications. And Kevin Mo, director of the China buildings program at the Energy Foundation, a San Francisco-based nonprofit, said the Chinese authori-

buildings at the International Finance Corp., the private sector arm of the World Bank. He added that demand for upgrades was now consistent enough there that a few domestic contractors were beginning to make it their specialty.

In contrast with Western multinationals, whose target consumers value a green approach, most domestic manufacturers in Asia typically do not see palpable benefits in applying for independent certification, sustainability experts say. Some are building greener, however, or investing in efficiency retrofits as a way of reducing energy consumption or in response to pending government regulations.

Jackson Seng, professional services director at the Singapore office of Schneider

(Justin Mott/The New York Times)

Seng said that 90 percent of his clients were motivated by a desire to reduce energy costs, rather than to polish their corporate images or improve their chances of earning an international certification like LEED.

Consultants say Western multinationals typically apply for independent certification of factory structures, not as a way of complying with local laws, but because sustainable building design is a corporate policy in the United States and Europe. From a marketing perspective, a certified factory in Asia presents a positive contrast to events like the collapse last year of a poorly built garment factory in Bangladesh and dozens of reports of chemical spills and other manufacturing mishaps over the years.